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OF

British Parliamentary Papers

ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE COLONIES

1873-74

Colonies General

15

IRISH UNIVERSITY PRESS

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PAPERS

RELATING TO

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

PART I.—1873.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
February, 1873.



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PART I.

JAMAICA.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir J. P. GRANT, K.C.B., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, King's House, April 8, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1870–71, together with my Report on it.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

Enclosure in No. 1.

REPORT ON THE JAMAICA BLUE BOOK FOR 1871.

The year under report is the fifth since Jamaica became a Crown Colony.

Hitherto, whilst the financial returns noticed in these annual Reports have been necessarily prepared for what is called the financial year, that is for a period of twelve months from the 1st of October in one year to the 30th September in the following year, other returns have been prepared as for the calendar year. This often led to confusion and mistakes; and in respect of subjects in any way connected with finance, the practice was not strictly correct. It has been determined, therefore, to make all the returns embrace the transactions of the same period; and as financial returns must refer to the financial year, this is the year that has been selected for all returns. This period suits the agricultural seasons very well; for which reason, presumably, it was selected to form the year of finance.

Legislation.

Twenty-eight laws were passed during this period, of which the following may be specially noticed:—

Law 2 of 1871. A law for the removal to Kingston of the Supreme Court, and the offices of the Registrar and Clerk of the Courts and Crown.

This law was passed to meet the public convenience, which required the law courts to be at the capital of the Colony. Kingston has been

the commercial capital ever since the great earthquake of 1692, which destroyed Port Royal; and it is by very far the most important place in the Island. It is also the residence of nearly all the legal gentlemen practising in the higher courts. It was by this law made the seat of the higher law courts. And at the present moment it is becoming the seat of government and legislation.

Law 5 of 1871. A law to repeal Law 7 of 1867, and to declare in what manner land on which the quit rents and land tax have not been paid shall be forfeited to Her Majesty.

In 1867, shortly after my assumption of the Government of this Colony, a law (7 of 1867) was passed to simplify the method of obtaining a declaration of forfeiture of lands, the quit rent and land tax whereon has not been paid for a long period of years. That law has never been acted upon, as it was found to require some amendment in details.

This law, 5 of 1871, has introduced the amendments which were thought necessary, and the law is now working.

Law 6 of 1871. A law to render valid certain registrations made in the office of the Registrar of the Bishop since the expiry of the Clergy Act, 1858 (22 Vic., cap. 23), and to provide for the registration of marriages, baptisms, and burials to be hereafter administered and solemnized by ministers of the Church of England, and to preserve evidence thereof.

This law was passed to replace provisions for purposes of a permanent nature which had been contained in the Clergy Act, and had therefore expired with that Act, which was a law of only limited duration.

Under that Act baptisms, marriages, and burials by the clergy of the Church of England were registered by an officer called the Registrar of the Diocese. By the present law they will be registered in the Island Secretary's office, where marriages by ministers of other denominations are registered.

Law 13 of 1871. A law to authorize the appropriation of the fees and rents derived from the several markets of this Island other than the markets of Kingston, and for other purposes.

The fees and rents derived from markets were paid into the public treasury, and merged in the general revenue. Only one clerk of markets was provided for each parish, though in some parishes there were several markets at considerable distances apart from each other.

This law provides that the money arising from market fees and rents shall be carried to a separate account, and credited to the particular market from which it is received, and shall be expended in improving and keeping such market in good order. If any surplus exist it may be applied to the benefit of the town or immediate neighbourhood wherein the market affording such surplus is situated. The municipal boards are empowered to appoint clerks and to employ such persons as may be required for keeping all the markets clean, and for enforcing the market regulations.

Law 15 of 1871. A law for the purchase and transfer over to the Government of this Island of the Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks Company.

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The town of Kingston has been supplied with water by a company first incorporated in 1846, which had become possessed in fee simple of certain water rights in the nearest and most practicable source of supply. Before that time the town was wholly dependent upon wells, affording an inadequate supply of bad water. The water introduced by the Company is taken from a mountain stream before it enters the plain, at a place about seven miles from town. A late analysis shows this water to be of excellent quality; but owing to the small size of the main pipe (a 7-inch pipe only when it leaves the service reservoir, and above that only an 8-inch pipe), and to some errors of construction, it is very insufficient in quantity for the wants of a town in the tropics containing 30,000 inhabitants. Those who get their water for domestic purposes from the Company's pipes received usually a fair though not an abundant supply; but for the purpose of extinguishing fires (which have been very destructive in Kingston) and for general purposes, the whole of the water conveyed into the town affords quite an inadequate supply, whilst the small size of the distribution pipes (2-inch and $2\frac{1}{2}$-inch pipes), calculated to convey water only for domestic purposes, makes what supply there is of little or no use for the extinction of fires in the greater part of the town. Indeed by their Act of Incorporation the Company had no monopoly except for water for drinking and domestic use, not being well water; and they could not be interfered with so long as they supplied sufficient water for this purpose. Enough water for all purposes is procurable only at a very large additional outlay; as it is obtainable only by a complete renewal of the pipes and water system of the Company on a greatly enlarged plan.

In consequence of numerous representations which had been made of the inadequacy of this supply of water, a Commission was appointed in 1869 to inquire into and to report upon the subject.

In October, 1869, the Commissioners reported that an abundant quantity of water was available at the source from which the Kingston Water Company took their supply; but that the works of the Company were quite insufficient for the introduction and distribution of the quantity of water required for the city.

The Water Company, which had been in operation since 1849 under various laws, had been granted, by an Act passed in December, 1858, the exclusive privilege of supplying the city of Kingston with water for domestic purposes for a term of twenty-one years from the passing of the Act. They were obliged to supply good and wholesome water, but there was no stipulation as to the minimum quantity to be supplied. After the expiration of their term of monopoly, the corporation would have survived with all their rights as a water company, except the right to monopolize the supply for domestic purposes.

Indeed, in every point of view, so far as the interests of the city of Kingston were concerned, the arrangements under which the Company obtained their powers from the late Legislature were improvident and short-sighted.

To have met the necessity for the introduction of an adequate supply of water for all purposes by a double system of supply, would

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have been a very wasteful and inconvenient expedient; and it was therefore considered that the best arrangement for all parties would be an amicable bargain with the Company, on behalf of the city, for the purchase of the whole of their property and rights.

Negotiations with the directors were commenced with this view, which resulted in the consent of the Company to sell their property and rights to the Government on behalf of the town; and the law now under report was passed to sanction this bargain.

It was agreed to give 51,200*l.* for the interests of the Company, by the payment of cash or debentures of the Water Commissioners, bearing five per cent. interest, secured on the works, and guaranteed by the Colony. The par value of their shares was 50*l.*; by the bargain made the price paid for each share came to 80*l.* This transaction has been completed; the property, rights, and obligations of the Company have been transferred to official commissioners; and the Company has been paid off and dissolved. I may mention that every shareholder elected to take debentures instead of cash. I understand that these debentures have been sold at three per cent. premium. The expense of the entirely new system of works necessary for the purpose of bringing in and distributing a large and full supply of water to the city, sufficient for all purposes of security, health, and convenience, is estimated at about 40,000*l.* But I expect the expense to exceed this estimate.

The receipts from water voluntarily purchased now amount to 7,500*l.* per annum. When a full supply is laid on, and fair water rates are levied in the usual manner, it is estimated that the receipts will rise to at least 10,000*l.* per annum. This income will be sufficient to maintain the works, to pay interest on the capital, and to provide a sinking fund for the redemption of the five per cent. debentures by which the purchase has been effected, and the money required for the new works will be raised. The Waterworks will then become the property of the inhabitants of the city of Kingston and of the adjoining plain of Liguanea.

The services of a skilful engineer from England have been obtained, who is now actively engaged on the plans and specifications for the new works, the general nature of which has been determined upon. Pipes have been ordered from England, including a 21-inch main, which will replace the 8-inch main now existing by a pipe of seven times its capacity. The water will be carried in a concrete culvert for the greater part of the required distance, at an expense, as I am informed, of little more than one-third of the cost of an iron pipe of corresponding dimensions. This culvert has been commenced, and is now in course of rapid construction. It is proposed to form a large reservoir in the land obtained from the Company, to hold such a supply of water as will prevent any deficiency, even at the close of the driest season. The river from which the supply is taken, being fed from a high range of hills, never runs dry; but of course, like every tropical stream, it yields in dry weather very much less than its average yield.

Law 16 of 1871. A law to amend the law relating to aliens.

This law adopts here a principle which has been adopted in Eng-

land; it gives to aliens in Jamaica the same power of holding real and personal property that natural-born British subjects have.

The passing of this measure has given great satisfaction, and already several aliens have taken advantage of it.

Law 18 of 1871. A law to amend the law respecting costs.

Heretofore the practice has been not to allow to a successful suitor in a cause, costs for the legal services of barristers or attorneys employed in that cause, unless such services had been paid for in the form of special fees, for business done only in that particular cause. In all proceedings, therefore, in which the Crown became entitled to costs from the other party, no costs were allowed for the services of the Attorney-General, or of the Crown Solicitor, as these officers are paid for all Crown business by fixed salaries; and the same restriction was applicable to companies, or private persons paying for their law business in the same manner.

This law enacts that the same compensation shall be allowed to the successful party, whether the Crown or any private party, as costs for the services of the lawyers employed, that would have been allowed if such lawyers had been paid by the usual fees in the case, instead of by fixed salaries.

Law 19 of 1871. A law further to relieve trustees.

This law is framed on the provisions of the English Act, 22 and 23 Vic., cap. 35. Amongst other just provisions, it enables executors, trustees or administrators to seek advice from the Court of Chancery with respect to the performance of their duties, and it protects them from liability for acts done under such advice.

Law 20 of 1871. A law to abolish the office of Master in Ordinary of the Court of Chancery, and to make provision for the more speedy and efficient despatch of business in the said Court.

This law is founded upon the English Act, 15 and 16 Vic., cap. 80. It abolishes the office of Master in Chancery, and transfers the duties of that office to the Judge and the Registrar of the Court of Chancery.

In former times there was a very numerous body of Masters in Chancery, not because so many were at any time necessary for the purposes of justice, but for the sake of patronage; the office having been lucrative as long as any large quantity of valuable material for the Court to work upon remained unconsumed.

The late Legislature, perceiving the abuse, passed in the year 1865 a very proper Statute forbidding the appointment of any new Master; and providing that when the last Master should vacate office, the Court and its officer should do the necessary work of the Master's office. The effect of the law now reported has been to accelerate the obtainment of the excellent object of the Statute of 1865.

At the time of the introduction of the new constitution there were only two Masters left. One of these withdrew in the year 1869, in consequence of his having been committed to prison by the ex-Vice-Chancellor for malversation in a cause before the Court. The legitimate emoluments of the office had dwindled down so much as to become trifling, even when concentrated in the hands of one officer. This law provides compensation to the only remaining Master, which leaves his pecuniary position much what it was; whilst the advantage

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of the abolition of the office of Master, whereby both receivers in Chancery and solicitors are brought directly under the eye of the Judge, is to those whose property is at stake incalculable. I have reason to know that in practice it has been found already that very great advantage has been obtained by abolishing the Master's office, and that proceedings at chambers are now conducted under Sir John Lucie Smith's indefatigable supervision with economy and despatch.

Law 21 of 1871. A law to abolish grand juries and to amend the laws regulating the summoning of juries.

Grand juries were by custom composed of gentlemen holding commissions as justices of the peace. In some parts of the Island, owing to the limited number of persons of this class, it had become an unavoidable necessity to summon the same persons to serve as grand jurors at nearly every assizes. This was a real hardship, and had been made a subject of serious complaint by the grand jurymen of two parishes: for most of these gentlemen are fully occupied in the management of important affairs of their own, and the loss of time in attending courts so frequently was a serious inconvenience to them.

The institution of grand juries was in no case an aid to the good administration of justice. Where the grand jury found a true bill, the real trial of the charge was not advanced a step; and where it threw out a bill, its finding was not final. The general objection to tribunals deciding in secret upon evidence given in secret, which I apprehend applies to grand juries wherever this institution still remains in force, applies especially to grand juries in a small community composed of heterogeneous elements.

A very shocking instance in which justice was defeated, and the class of which the mass of the population consists was outraged by the action of a grand jury, occurred soon after my arrival in the Colony, in a case which was reported by me to the Secretary of State in my Despatch No. 33, dated the 24th October, 1866. This occurred at the assizes in St. Thomas-in-the-East, on a charge of the murder of a negro by a gentleman now deceased. The charge was first brought before the justices of the peace in Petty Sessions, who attended the investigation in large number, and refused to commit the accused person for trial. The Attorney-General, on consideration of the evidence, indicted him ex officio, as he was authorized by law to do. The Judge charged the grand jury to the effect that all they had to consider was the evidence in support of the prosecution, which evidence was uncontradicted, and clearly set up a case of murder. The Judge in forcible language charged that such being the evidence in support of the bill, the case was one unquestionably demanding a trial. The grand jury nevertheless threw out the bill, and their so doing excited not the least surprise, and so far as I could perceive, no public disapprobation here. The Attorney-General gave it to me as his opinion that no grand jury in the parish in which only the accused could be indicted would ever find a bill in that case; which therefore was necessarily dropped. Thus either what, the alleged circumstances considered, was one of the most revolting murders on record, was pronounced by a grand jury to be an act deserving of no punishment;

or else an innocent or comparatively innocent gentleman was sent to his grave, with full and consistent evidence on oath recorded against him of his having committed an inhuman crime, which he was refused all opportunity of contradicting or softening off.

What seemed to me to tell in this case most strongly against the institution here, was not so much the flagrancy of the act of the grand jury, as its general acceptance by all classes in the Colony as what was to have been expected.

A state of law producing such fruits as this, could not be allowed to endure. Accordingly when the District Courts were introduced, a power was given to a district court judge, such as could be made available whenever required by justice, of committing for trial at assizes; and the committals by district court judges were made to operate like the finding of a grand jury, and so to go before the petty jury for trial without any intermediate procedure.

This change had made the continuance of grand juries in this Colony compatible with public security; but the uselessness and inherent defects of the institution became only the more apparent. That gentlemen fully occupied with their own affairs should be put to serious inconvenience and real hardship for the purpose of keeping up an always useless and sometimes injurious institution was thought indefensible.

The Judges of the Supreme Court were consulted, and were unanimous in opinion that grand juries might be abolished without any injury to the administration of criminal justice. This law was accordingly passed.

The Attorney-General and his two assistants, now, as public prosecutors, effectively supply the place of the abolished institution.

One of the good consequences of this law is, that the general jury panel is much improved in quality by the admixture of the intelligence of the higher and educated classes, who are no longer excluded from it by reason of their being grand jurymen.

Law 22 of 1871. A law for the more frequent sitting of the Circuit Court in Kingston.

The Kingston Assizes are by far the most important in the Island, and have very much more civil and criminal business than any other.

The Courts of Circuit sat in Kingston and elsewhere three times a year; and in Kingston the sitting lasted for three weeks each time. It had been found impossible for one judge always to get through all the business within the time allotted; and a second Court was therefore authorized to be formed by another judge, sitting separately and simultaneously; an arrangement not very convenient to the profession.

This law provides that Circuit Courts shall be held in Kingston six times a year, instead of three times. The effect of this change has been to reduce the average delay in the trial of prisoners by exactly one half, without adding to the work of either judge or jury. It also reduces the average time of detention of seafaring witnesses by one half. The number of jurymen summoned in the course of the year for the Kingston Assizes having been simultaneously very greatly reduced, the result of the change has been a great convenience

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to all concerned, and a decided practical improvement in the administration of justice.

Law 23 of 1871. A law to regulate the sale and storage of petroleum.

This law is founded upon two English Statutes, 25 and 26 Vic., cap. 66, and 31 and 32 Vic., cap. 56, and was passed in consequence of the frequent occurrence of fatal accidents in the use of the kerosine oil sold by importers of that article.

By this law petroleum must be stored in buildings specially licensed for the purpose, as having been found fit for the storage of this very inflammable substance. And the sale of any petroleum which gives off, under a method of test set forth in the schedule to the law, an inflammable vapour at a lower degree of heat than 95° of Fahrenheit's thermometer, is prohibited.

Law 25 of 1871. A law relating to bankruptcy.

This law introduces into this Colony the new English bankruptcy law, thus replacing the old Jamaica insolvency law.

The old state of things under the insolvency law, when the judicial work of an insolvent court was imposed in a strangely incongruous manner on the judges going circuit at the Assizes, and when all the ministerial and financial duty connected with the realization and management of the estates of insolvents was made over to official assignees, over whom the judges, whose officers they nominally were, exercised no supervision or check, had been infamous. The abuses in this branch of the law were in one respect even worse than the more notorious abuse of the receivership system in the Court of Chancery; for in this last case property was consumed according to law, but in the case of the estates of insolvents it was appropriated with impunity, contrary to law both civil and criminal.

I know that it was the opinion of a professional gentleman of ability and experience, now no longer in the Colony, that this state of things was not attributable to the substance of the insolvency law itself, so much as to the manner in which it had been worked. But although I can say no word in favour of the manner in which this law was originally worked, it is but justice to say that its provisions for its own working were absurd. If any business coming before a court requires to be dealt with leisurely, and by one and the same judge throughout, it is, I apprehend, an insolvency case.

The two objects of discouraging fraud and distributing assets were everywhere equally unattained. In the three insolvency jurisdictions into which the Island had been divided, as to two of them, in one case all, in the other case most, of the assets of insolvent estates were appropriated by the official assignees; and as to the other, they lay mostly useless in the Treasury. The detailed accounts specifically required by law to be filed in the office of the Supreme Court, were never filed; perfectly useless summaries being substituted for what the law required. To remedy this state of things, the District Courts were made the Insolvent Courts each for its own district, and their clerks were made the official assignees. An immediate improvement in this branch of judicial administration was the manifest result. Since that time I have observed notices of distribution of assets amongst

creditors; a sort of notice which never struck my eye before; and angry effusions have appeared in print, in consequence of the application of the penal clauses of the law to punishable insolvents, for which I believe there had not been before much occasion.

But although when justice was done by the new courts and by the new official assignees, their officers, to the substantial provisions of the old insolvent law, it began to work better, it was at best a law very inferior in all respects to the new English bankruptcy law. The greater stringency of this new law was even more requisite here than at home, for the protection of creditors and the discouragement of reckless trading.

The law now passed is almost the same with the English Bankruptcy Act, 32 and 33 Vic., cap. 71. I see no reason why the same principles in respect to insolvency and bankruptcy, found to be good for England, should not be equally appropriate for Jamaica.

The chief difference between the English statute and this law is, that the grant to one of the local courts of first instance of an intermediate appellate jurisdiction between the other courts of first instance and the ultimate court of appeal from all the courts, is omitted. There are, I presume, special reasons in England to counterbalance the objections to want of unity of system, and to double appeals; but there are no special reasons for such an anomalous organization here.

The District Courts are the Bankruptcy Courts, each one for its own district; and appeals from all of them lie directly to the Supreme Court.

Law 26 of 1871. A law to abolish imprisonment for debt.

This is a copy of a part of the English law, 32 and 33 Vic., cap. 62.

It abolishes the right of a creditor to imprison a debtor. The general effect of this batch of laws taken together, is to abolish imprisonment for debt, where the debt has not been fraudulently incurred, and the debtor is unable to pay. Default in payment of penalties; default in payment by trustees; default by an attorney or solicitor of costs for misconduct as such; default in payment of any salary, or income ordered by a court to be paid for the benefit of creditors; render a person liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year. But the infliction of this penalty does not relieve him of the obligation to pay.

The Bankruptcy Courts may commit to prison, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding six weeks, or until payment of the sum due, any person who shall refuse or neglect to pay the amount of a judgment or order of the Court, if it be proved to the satisfaction of the Court that the person making default either has, or has had since the date of the order or judgment, the means to pay, and imprisonment for default as above does not extinguish the debt. These courts have the power to order payment of a debt by instalments.

A Judge of the Supreme Court or of a District Court may order the arrest and the imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, of any defendant to a pending action, who shall attempt to leave the

JAMAICA.

Island, to the prejudice of the plaintiff, unless, or until, he gives security that he will not quit the Island without leave of the Court.

Before the enactment of this law, a law passed here in the year 1869 had all but put an end to wanton imprisonment for debt. This law required the imprisoning credit or to deposit with the gaoler, before the first of every month, the cost of a prisoner's food for a month, in default of which deposit the debtor was released from prison, but did not become free from his obligation to pay. The present law carries out the true principle completely.

Law 27 of 1871. A law to punish fraudulent debtors.

This is in fact Part II. of the English Act, 32 and 33 Vic., cap. 62. It was thought here more systematic to put all the penal clauses of the Bankruptcy Law into one law, which thus becomes a penal code in relation to bankruptcy. As this law is worked like any other penal law, it seems advisable to separate it from laws relating to a branch of civil procedure.

Law 28 of 1871. A law to amend the law of civil procedure respecting warrants of attorney, cognovits, and orders for judgment.

This law is likewise one of the bankruptcy series. It is taken from Part III. of the English Statute, 32 and 33 Vic., cap. 62.

Finance.

The accounts of the year now under report, excluding the immigration accounts, which must always be separately treated, show, as did those of the two years immediately preceding, a considerable surplus of revenue over expenditure. This surplus amounted in the year under report (1870–71) to 22,583*l.* But of this surplus only 9,777*l.*, as belonging to unappropriated revenue, are available for general purposes; the remaining 12,806*l.*, being appropriated to particular purposes (paupers, parochial roads, &c.), are funded accordingly, and are available for these particular purposes only. In the above calculation the cost of certain special services defrayed from the accumulated surplus of previous years is not included.

The following are the figures in the books which give the actual results of the financial year 1870–71 :—

	£
General revenues - - -	353,803
Expenditure - - - -	344,026
Surplus - -	£9,777
Appropriated revenues - - -	53,468
Expenditure - - -	40,662
Surplus - - -	£12,806

This surplus is shown after charging as expenditure 7,890*l.*, paid to sinking funds for the eventual redemption of debt.

The expenditure from surplus balances of preceding years, not inclusive in the foregoing expenditure, was 25,969*l.* This amount is exclusive of a sum of 11,344*l.*, also taken out of these surplus balances, and applied in the course of the year under report to the redemption of debt.

The surplus from the general revenues of the year under report, together with the unexpended balances of the two preceding years, which on the 30th September last stood at 16,897*l.*, will be appropriated during the current year in part towards carrying out certain special services on roads and public buildings, which are estimated to cost 20,428*l.* With this appropriation there will still remain in the public chest 6,246*l.* for any further special service which may be required hereafter.

The Immigration Fund account is not included in the above figures. Its revenue and expenditure for the year were as follows:—

	£
Revenue - - - -	27,294
Expenditure - - - -	45,466

The difference between the Immigration revenue and expenditure was defrayed from the balance at the credit of the fund on the 30th September, 1870, and from the proceeds of an immigration loan of 30,000*l.*, which was raised under the authority of the existing law (22 Vic., cap. 3) for the introduction of immigrants.

The following Table gives the whole of the Treasury receipts of the year 1870–71, both of revenue and other moneys, as compared with those of the year immediately preceding:—

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FOR THE YEARS 1870–71 AND 1869–70.

	1870–71.	1869–70.	More.	Less.
	£	£	£	£
Import Duties and Fees - - -	193,226	193,341	—	115
" " " (additional)	—	*9,447	—	9,447
Tonnage Dues - - - - -	—	†6,934	—	6,934
Light Dues - - - - - -	2,461	3,161	—	700
Excise—Rum Duty- - - -	75,254	78,264	—	3,010
" Spirit Licences - - -	13,305	13,567	—	262
Trade Licences (old) - - -	502	466	36	—
" " (new) - - -	6,506	7,132	—	526
Stamps - - - - - - -	12,076	11,482	594	—
Land Tax on Main Roads - - -	8,191	7,349	842	—
New Property Tax - - -	4,788	4,319	469	—
Poor Rate—House Tax - - -	22,978	17,229	5,749	—
Parochial Road Tax—Horses and Wheels - - - - - -	26,338	20,940	5,398	—
Tax on Stock - - - - - -	88	‡3,203	—	3,115
Dog Tax (new) - - - - -	120	137	—	17
Post Office - - - - - -	13,640	13,068	572	—
Miscellaneous - - - - -	27,798	24,380	3,418	—
Total Revenue - - -	407,271	414,418	—	7,147
IMMIGRATION REVENUE.				
Export Duty - - - - - -	20,007	22,557	—	2,550
Capitation Tax, &c. - - - -	7,287	3,548	3,739	—
RECEIPTS ON DEBT ACCOUNT.				
Excess of Deposits in Treasury over withdrawals - - - - -	—	8,236	—	8,236
Immigration Loan - - - -	30,000	—	30,000	—
Grand Total Receipts - -	464,565	448,759	15,806	—

* Ceased from April 1, 1870. † Ceased from April 1, 1870.
‡ Abolished from August 1, 1870.

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From this Table it will be seen that, notwithstanding the loss by abolition, from the middle of the preceding year 1869–70, of the additional import duties of the tonnage dues and of the tax on breeding stock, which realized in all during the first half of that year 19,584*l.*, the revenues of last year have only fallen short of the revenues of the last preceding year by 7,147*l.* Thus the revenue in the aggregate from those taxes which have been in operation for the whole of both years, has increased by 12,790*l.* This result is mainly due to a great improvement in the collection of the tax on horses and wheels (parochial road tax), owing to the useful action of the constabulary in the discovery of evasions, and to an equally great improvement in the collection of the house tax or poor rate.

The only item of general revenue in which a noticeable falling is shown is the rum duty. The upward spring which this source of revenue has taken since the opening of the current financial year, shows that the falling off in 1870–71 was casual.

In respect of the Immigration revenues, the falling off in the export duty is due to considerable diminution in the past year of the exports of logwood and of coffee, naturally a fluctuating staple.

The whole expenditure from the public chest in the year, including the expenditure from the surplus balances of the preceding years of 25,969*l.* on special objects, amounted to 402,767*l.* Excluding this special expenditure from past surpluses, the current expenditure of the year amounted to 376,798*l.*, as against 368,600*l.* for the year before.

Below is a Table * showing the Treasury disbursements of the year under report, both on account of current expenditure and on all other accounts, contrasted with those of the preceding year.

The increase of expenditure is principally in the items of education, pensions, district courts, revenue, medical, and constabulary. The charges for the census taken in June, 1871, and for the steam communication with the United States since February, 1871, have added notably to the expenditure of the year.

The items of education and pensions are discussed at length in other parts of this Report.

The increase in the cost of the District Courts is due principally to the existence during the whole of the year of the additional judgeship of the Kingston Court, which, until July, 1870, was served by Mr. Cargill, one of the judges of the Supreme Court, and to a nominal increase caused by the non-drawal till 1871, by one judge, of a considerable portion of his salary for 1870.

The increased charge under the head of revenue is due to an increase of the establishments of the Treasury and Audit Offices, and in the revenue staff.

1,000*l.* more has been spent this year than last in the maintenance of the rural constabulary.

The further organization of the new Medical Department has created a large increase of charge under this head.

On the other hand there has been a considerable decrease under the head of Ecclesiastical, and in Parochial, the expenditure in relief of the poor being less by 5,740*l.*

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* The Table is printed on the next page.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEARS 1870-71, 1869-70.

	1870-71.	1869-70.	More.	Less.
	£	£	£	£
Civil	21,414	20,912	502	—
Judicial	15,753	15,640	113	—
„ District Courts	13,795	11,457	2,338	—
Revenue	34,952	32,615	2,337	—
Botanic Garden	2,209	1,542	667	—
Post Office	13,920	13,353	567	—
Ecclesiastical	19,128	21,774	—	2,646
Medical	25,649	18,313	7,336	—
Constabulary	45,316	40,586	4,730	—
Prisons	21,805	22,450	—	645
Education	11,778	9,190	2,588	—
Miscellaneous	5,761	5,413	348	—
Military	3,398	3,651	—	253
Roads	43,308	44,731	—	1,423
Buildings	14,016	22,680	—	8,664
Irrigation (new)	784	—	784	—
Land Expenses (new)	544	—	544	—
Pensions	12,509	11,128	1,381	—
Lighthouses	1,243	1,201	42	—
Harbour Masters	102	108	—	6
Parochial Expenditure	23,222	27,520	—	4,298
Steam Communication with New York (new)	2,924	—	2,924	—
Interest on Debt	43,268	44,336	—	1,068
Total current Expenditure	376,798	368,600	8,198	—
EXPENDITURE FROM SURPLUS REVENUES.				
Public Buildings	8,931	—	8,931	—
New Roads and Bridges	12,935	—	12,935	—
Census	4,103	—	4,103	—
	402,767	368,600	34,167	—
Sinking Funds	7,890	4,930	2,960	—
Redemption of Debt from current Revenue	650	950	—	300
„ „ „ surplus Revenue of previous years	11,344	32,650	—	21,306
Expenditure on Services for which Loans were raised	6	1,370	—	1,364
Excess of Withdrawals from Treasury over Deposits therein	11,146	—	11,146	—
Total Disbursements, exclusive of Charges on Immigration Fund Account	433,803	408,500	25,303	—
Charges on Immigration Fund Account	45,466	36,016	9,450	—
Grand Total Disbursements	479,269	444,516	34,753	—

The saving effected in interest stands at only 1,068*l.* in consequence of the charge against interest this year of 2,138*l.* for premium paid on the conversion of debentures. As this is a payment made last year once for all, the operations under Law 47 of 1869 will have their full effect on the finances of the current year, in which the expenditure under this head, as compared with past years, will be much further reduced.

This was the first year in which the late very large reduction of taxation has had its full effect. The financial result of the year, therefore, is a matter of peculiar interest. The above figures will

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show that this result has been gratifying. Indeed nothing could be more satisfactory, on the whole, than the financial position at the close of the year under report.

Pensions.

A pension at the rate of 150*l.* a year was granted to a clergyman retiring from the establishment, whose place has not been filled up.

Under the general superannuation scheme introduced, pensions were granted in regular course amounting to 555*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, and the Pension List has been relieved to the amount of 857*l.* per annum by deaths of pensioners during the year.

The increased expenditure under this head of 1871 over 1870 was caused by the payment of special compensation pensions, as explained in my last year's Report.

Debt.

As in the year before, so in the year 1870–71 no loan chargeable to the general revenues of the Colony was raised; but the balance (4,000*l*) of the loan authorized for the Kingston markets under Law 7 of 1869 was taken up by the Kingston Market Commissioners, at premiums ranging from $5\frac{3}{4}$ to 7 per cent.

30,000*l.* were borrowed under the provisions of the Immigration Laws, on the security of the Immigration revenues, in order to pay for the introduction of immigrants.

Debentures bearing 5 per cent. interest, representing 51,200*l.* of capital stock, were issued by the Kingston Water Commissioners, under the Colonial Guarantee secured on the works and rates, in purchase of the shares of the Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks Company, under the authority of Law 15 of 1871, as explained in an earlier of part this Report.

During the year 3,994*l.* of debt, as the debentures became payable, were paid off from the surplus revenues of preceding years; 356*l.* were paid off from sinking funds falling in; and 650*l.* were paid off from current revenues appropriated therefor. There were also paid off debentures to the extent of 7,350*l.* which had been called in for payment in previous years, but had not been presented at the time they became payable.

A further issue, to the extent of 50,410*l.* of debentures at 5 per cent. in substitution of debentures at 6 per cent. under the provisions of Law 47 of 1869, took place in the year; the total amount now thus converted under that law is 114,260*l.*

A sum of 7,890*l.* was invested in sinking funds for the eventual redemption of debt on account of Island loans for general objects; and an investment of 1,969*l.* was made from the Immigration revenues in sinking funds for the several Immigration loans.

The public debt secured on the general revenues stood as follows on the 30th of September of each of the last six years, after making

allowance in every year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt:—

	£	s.	d.
1866	682,466	11	5
1867	718,952	18	10
1868	706,964	18	0
1869	686,830	9	2
1870	609,505	11	3
1871	591,656	5	6

For each year to these sums must be added the amounts due by the Treasury to certain local works, for which loans had been specially raised by Statute under the late Government. This debt for money unspent on local works is now reduced to about 11,000*l.* In 1866 it exceeded 16,080*l.*

The interest paid on the above-stated debt amounted to 43,268*l.* This is a reduction of 1,068*l.* on the amount paid last year. The debt secured on the revenues of the Immigration Fund stood as follows at the corresponding periods:—

	£	s.	d.
1866	74,850	6	3
1867	69,138	0	3
1868	64,175	14	3
1869	59,213	8	3
1870	56,138	0	0
1871	84,169	7	0

In this last year, as has been stated, a new Immigration loan of 30,000*l.* was raised. By the conditions of this loan 2,000*l.* of the principal are paid off annually.

The interest paid on Immigration loans in the past year amounted to 2,885*l.* as against 2,297*l.* paid in the year 1870.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. Ernest A. C. Schalch was appointed Attorney-General of the Colony on the 8th March, 1871, in the room of Mr. Alexander Heslop, who retired on a pension.

Mr. J. G. Starke was appointed to a District Court Judgeship on the 1st July, 1871, to complete the full number of District Court Judges, in consequence of Mr. Justice Cargill's resignation of the charge of the Kingston District Court.

Mr. J. A. Sullivan, Provost Marshal General, died on the 23rd of June, 1871. No qualified candidate for this office, which is in the nature of a permanent sheriffship and was wholly remunerated by fees, appeared in consequence of the income having fallen to what is insufficient to compensate for its responsibilities. A provisional arrangement was necessarily made at some public cost. A new system is projected to provide permanently for the duties of this office without imposing any new charge on the public chest.

Mr Sullivan was the last of the Patent Office holders in Jamaica, appointed under the old system which disgraced our West Indian administration in days gone by. He obtained his Royal Patent in

the year 1803, when no objection was made to such offices being farmed to deputies, and the patentee was not required to reside in the Colony, or even to leave home. Mr Sullivan held also at the same time the office of Secretary for British Guiana.

In 1832 he was required to reside. He elected to reside in Jamaica, and received a life pension from British Guiana, in compensation for his loss of office in that Colony.

At the time of Mr. Sullivan's appointment and for long afterwards, when all the labourers on plantations were liable to seizure in execution and sale, as chattels, this office was one of vast emoluments.

Land.

Under the provisions of the Law of 1867 for reclaiming lands taken possession of by squatters, without colour of title, the lands of five abandoned properties, containing 4,649 acres, were recovered in the course of the year, by process in the District Courts on the part of the Crown, from 253 persons who had squatted on them. The law allows valid leases of such lands to be granted by Government for a term of seven years, during which time any person who can establish a title to the property can come forward, and obtain possession subject to the leases. In most cases the ejected squatters become willingly the lawful tenants of the land at reasonable rates of rent. In no instance has the enforcement of this law, on the part of the Crown, given rise to any complaint that has reached my ears. On the contrary, it seems an acceptable measure to all parties.

The new Law of 1871 for the forfeiture of land on which quit-rents and land-tax are long in arrear, has been put into operation, Proceedings under this law will have to be taken in the Circuit Courts, but they cannot be commenced until three notifications, at intervals of three months, shall have been published. Such notifications have been published in the course of the year, in the cases of 89 properties, containing 46,488 acres of land.

Public Works.

Roads.—The severe weather which continued up to nearly the end of December, 1870, caused great damage to the roads generally, and materially increased the cost of their repair and maintenance in the year under report. The rainfall in the parish of Manchester during the last three months of 1870 amounted to 62·05 inches; and at Bath, in the parish of St. Thomas, in the same time it was no less than 88·05 inches. The mean average for the whole Island, taken from 17 stations in various parts, gave 21·79 inches in October and 10·3 inches in November.

This heavy rainfall was succeeded by several months of very dry weather, which enabled the Department of Roads to repair damages; and the roads all over the Island are now again in very good condition.

The sums expended on roads and bridges for the last six years have been as here shown:—

	1865-66.	1866-67.	1867-68.	1868-69.	1869-70.	1870-71.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Main roads and bridges -	18,182	12,710	15,746	18,840	26,676	35,969
Parochial roads - -	12,464	14,093	13,190	16,579	18,055	20,273
	30,646	26,803	28,936	35,419	44,731	56,242

Of the above expenditure on main roads and bridges, the following sums were expended in the construction of new roads and bridges, viz.:—

1868-69.	1869-70.	1870-71.
£	£	£
4,944	8,517	12,935

A portion of the grand interior road, running through the parishes of St. Ann and Trelawny to Falmouth, has been still further improved, and parts of it have been macadamized. Further works for improving this road and widening it where requisite will be carried out continuously.

The new road between Free Town in the Vere district and Rules Penn on the Manchester road was completed and opened.

This new line was opened to avoid a steep gradient on the main post-road to the western part of the Island, on which, in the rainy season, traffic was impeded by a water-course. The new work has greatly improved this important line of road.

The explorations for the new bridle road across the country from Trelawny to St. Elizabeth have been continued. I have been disappointed by the slow progress made in this work, being impressed with its importance.

Bridges.—A small iron bridge has been erected over the Kildare river in Portland, to replace a bridge which had been washed away about eighteen or twenty years ago, and the want of which was a great inconvenience to persons having to cross the river.

A small iron bridge was thrown over the Orange Cove River in Hanover, to replace a bridge washed away in May, 1870.

The progress of the masonry work for the great bridge over the Dry River was much retarded, first by the heavy rain, and afterwards from the want of water in the dry months. The contractor had depended on well-sinking, but although he sank a well to the depth of about 120 feet, no water was found. A pond has since been formed, which will store a considerable quantity of water after each heavy fall of rain.

The embankments and cuttings for the formation of the approaches have been finished, and the foundations of the piers are now in course of being laid.

Public Buildings.—The expenditure on public buildings amounted to 35,004*l.* 9*s.*; the principal items are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Markets	10,121	1	9
Hospitals and asylums	4,110	16	1
Court-houses and public offices	3,902	11	6
Churches	3,628	15	4
Prisons, reformatories, and police stations	2,897	1	7
Light-houses	567	8	1

Kingston Market and Landing Place.—These extensive works were at the close of the year nearly completed. They form now, with their dwarf sea-wall and parapet, the most ornamental feature of the city; replacing old, rickety, and dirty market houses, which were a public disgrace.

Port Maria Market.—A handsome iron market-shed, 88 feet long and 32 feet wide, measuring 22 feet between the pillars, was imported from England for the market place in the town of Port Maria, and is now in course of erection there.

Public Hospital.—The works for the improvement of this important institution were continued, and they are now very nearly completed. Verandahs have been added to the two main buildings, by which means, in connection with certain internal arrangements, ample room for many more beds in the best part of the hospital has been obtained. A new kitchen, with improved cooking apparatus, has been built. The old and unhealthy surgical wards have now been converted into good store-rooms, an excellent and airy surgical hospital and operating room having been erected to replace them, as was reported last year. The only works now remaining to be completed at this institution are new latrines and new baths, as planned and ordered. The baths are awaiting the arrival from England of apparatus for the supply of hot water.

The many very great faults of these buildings, as they stood four years ago, have thus been removed; and nearly all their defects have now been supplied. The management continues to be admirable; and thus in every respect this institution has become one that is highly creditable to the Colony.

Coolie Hospitals.—A union hospital, capable of accommodating 60 patients, was erected at Hordley estate, in St. Thomas.

Customs.—A Government bonded warehouse has been fitted up in the town of Montego Bay.

Kingston Garden.—A piece of open land, about eight acres in extent, forming an ugly waste space in the middle of a square situated in the centre of the city of Kingston, which used to go by the name of a parade, has been enclosed with a handsome iron railing, and the work of trenching, levelling, and manuring the surface, in order to convert the space into an ornamental town garden, has been commenced. It is intended for a public pleasure garden and promenade. On a portion of the land now stand some old barracks which, as being no longer required, are to be eventually taken down.

Castleton Botanic Gardens.—The residence of the officer in charge has been greatly improved. A tank for the Victoria Regia has been completed, and some other improvements have been made in these gardens at a moderate cost.

Water Supply, Spanish Town.—A new brick reservoir, capable of holding about 150,000 gallons of water, has been built in Spanish Town, and a steam-engine and pumps have been erected and are now at work on the right bank of the Rio Cobre.

Thus the town, which was formerly supplied with water by a joint-stock company, but has been for several years unsupplied in consequence of the insolvency of the company and the breaking down of their engine and works, has once more been supplied with this first necessary.

Churches.—Two new churches were completed; one a stone building at St. Anne's Bay, capable of accommodating 500 persons, and the other a brick building at Morant Bay, capable of accommodating 400 persons. These edifices cost respectively 2,275*l.* 19*s.* and 1,995*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*, and their erection is in fact the payment of a debt due by the chest.

Prisons.—A new cooking apparatus was imported for and erected in the Penitentiary, by which a saving in fuel alone of about 150*l.* per annum is made.

The St. Catherine District Prison, formerly much cramped for room, has been enlarged and improved.

District Courts.

The business of these courts has increased largely and regularly every year since their establishment, as will be seen from the following Table:—

	1869.	1870.	1870-71.
Criminal trials - - -	1,256	1,712	1,831
Small causes - - - -	3,133	5,509	7,321
Equity cases - - -	2	10	13
Cases under the Land Law -	133	137	353
Insolvency cases - - -	9	147	42
Probate cases - - - -	35	43	42
Amount claimed - - -	£22,919	£29,070	£35,958
Judgment obtained for - -	11,386	14,919	18,580
Cost - - - - - -	2,109	2,774	3,350
Court fees - - - - -	2,154	3,225	4,424

From the decisions of these courts there were 25 appeals in criminal cases and 6 in civil cases. The appeals were heard in the Supreme Court, and resulted in the judgments of the Districts Courts being confirmed in 18 cases and altered or reversed in 13 cases.

Botanic Gardens.

The garden at Castleton received a considerable addition of new species during the year from India.

The Bombay grafted mangoes planted three years ago, which I reported last year as being 5 feet in height, are in a thriving condition, and are now from 8 to 9 feet high, with numerous branches from which grafting or inarching will be effected. I do not doubt that the finest varieties of this almost unequalled fruit will thrive here

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quite as well as at Bombay. The plant has naturalized itself here in the course of only 90 years, and now spreads self-sown over large tracts in all parts of the Island. As the propagation has been exclusively from seed, it is surprising to find amongst these wild trees so many bearing fruit at all eatable, which I think could not be the case were not the climate and soil very propitious for this plant. The quantity of fruit produced is remarkable; and it is greedily devoured by horses, cattle, and swine. With vessels running in six days to New York, the commercial value of an orchard of fine Bombay mangoes near Kingston would surely be very great.

A box containing from 50 to 60 cuttings of the Salangore sugar-cane was, on my application, most obligingly supplied to us by the Governor of Martinique. It is intended to propagate these canes, and to offer the plants at a moderate price to sugar-planters. This sort of cane is described as vigorous and hardy, and as containing more sugar than the richest variety of cane now cultivated here.

An interchange of plants and seeds has been commenced with the Department of Agriculture in the United States. A box containing a valuable assortment of garden and fruit seeds has been received here from the States; and the Commissioner of Agriculture there has most courteously responded to an application made to him from the Botanical Department of this Colony, and has promised to make for us an extended collection of the most approved American varieties of fruit, vegetable, and tree seeds, and of cuttings of the choicest varieties of sugar-cane from Lousiana.

In return I have had great pleasure in supplying the American Commissioner of Agriculture from Jamaica with 300 Cinchona plants, a case of tropical economic plants, and several packets of seeds.

Two acres more of Lisal hemp, the cultivation of which was commenced in 1869, have been established, making four acres now planted. The first crop of fibre will be obtained in five or six years from the time of planting.

Cinchona Plantation.

One hundred and forty acres are under cinchonas, and 100 acres are in course of preparation for the further extension of the plantation.

The most advanced trees are now from 12 to 14½ feet in height, with stems from 10 to 15 inches in circumference near the ground. The plantation is reported to present a healthy and luxurious appearance.

Some experiments have been tried with the Cinchona officinalis, a most valuable species, two years old: the object being to ascertain whether this plant could be profitably cultivated as a shrub to be cropped at a very early stage instead of waiting until the trees are eight or ten years old. An analysis gave 2·8 per cent. of quinine, which, I am informed, is considered an excellent yield considering the age of the plant. The experiment will be continued.

An analysis was made of the bark of the Cinchona pahudiana, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the cultivation of this species

here was worthy of being continued; as in India and Java it is reported that there is hardly a trace of quinine, and only a small quantity of inferior alkaloids obtainable from this species. The yield here was 2·2 per cent. of quinine.

There is half an acre of tea plants in the cinchona plantations, at an elevation of 4,500 feet. The plants have now seeded freely, which would make the cultivation of tea on a commercial scale in any part of the Island easily feasible. I suspect that this elevation would be found too high for profitable cultivation, though probably the quality of the tea would be very fine with good manipulation. I think an experiment in a moist situation, at a much lower elevation, might perhaps be successfully made by persons in possession of suitable lands. But the establishment of a tea plantation is a very expensive process in comparison with many other similar enterprises open to intelligent proprietors in this Colony.

Half an acre of the jalap plant, which has become naturalized at the cinchona plantations, has been planted at an elevation of 5000 feet; and the plantation will be increased to one acre. Tubers of this valuable plant, weighing in their fresh state a pound, have been produced. The cultivation of the jalap plant promises to be one of a very remunerative character.

Education.

The rapidly increasing demand for trained schoolmasters for elementary schools, caused by the sudden spring which elementary education has taken here within the last three or four years, having become far beyond the means of supply afforded by private institutions, a Government Training College was opened in August, 1870, at Stony Hill, where the Reformatory is, and was placed under the superintendent of that institution, in a part of the building constructed for the quarters of the officers of a regiment formerly stationed there. The number of students is limited to 15, as the buildings will not accommodate more at present. Candidates for admission as students must be between 18 and 24 years of age; and they are required to produce a certificate of good health and of good moral conduct and habits. They must be well acquainted with the fundamental doctrines of Christianity. They are admitted from all parts of the Island on passing a competitive examination in the rudiments of arithmetic, grammar, geography, and natural science. The College course occupies two years, but a certificate may be given earlier in cases of special fitness. There are two terms in the year, at the end of each of which the students undergo an examination. Any student who shows at any examination such a want of capacity or of industry as to make it apparent that he is not likely to become a thoroughly competent schoolmaster, is required to leave the institution in order to make room for a more promising candidate. The students board and lodge at the College at the expense of the Government. The only fees they are required to pay are 3*l.* at the beginning of the first year, and 2*l.* at the beginning of the second. These fees will be applied to the formation of a library.

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Engagement in industrial pursuits forms an essential feature in the training of the students.

A school for the children of the neighbourhood is attached to the college. Two of the students in rotation are engaged daily in this school, in order to make them familiar with the business of school teaching and management.

Besides these students nine extra students in training for schoolmasters are maintained at the cost of Government at the Mico Institution, an undenominational college, from which a large proportion of our best trained schoolmasters are supplied. Another Government training institution is in course of formation at Port Antonio, as a department of a Government model school, conducted by a remarkably good industrial schoolmaster of long experience in Jamaica, who has been appointed in succession to one of the masters imported from England. At this last-mentioned institution there are already six Government students in training, making the number of these students at present in all 30. This school is established comfortably in what were formerly military barracks.

I cannot help regarding this conversion into places for training schoolmasters for negro children of some of the many disused military barracks, to be found scattered all over the Island (mostly now in ruin), as a work of good omen.

Elementary Schools.—The progress of education in the elementary schools during the year continues to be most encouraging. A steady and rapid improvement is observable in every direction.

The annual inspection was carried out by the Inspector and four assistants: 441 schools were listed for examination; of these 408 were examined, 23 had not commenced operations, and 10 had been closed; 33,343 scholars were on the books, the daily average attendance was 19,644, and the number present on inspection was 23,821.

These figures do not represent the whole number of children passing through school in the Colony, as there are still three model schools in operation, with an average attendance of 193 pupils; 27 endowed schools, with an average of 1,755 pupils; and 5 normal schools, with an average of 116 pupils; besides private schools, roughly estimated at about 150 in number.

The number of schools examined in the last four years are as follows:—

1868	286
1869	262
1870	329
1870–71	408

The increase of schools is apparent in the case of every religious denomination in the Island, without exception. Three hundred and ten schools, being 76 per cent. of the whole number examined, passed the examination as coming up to standard. Compared with the three previous years, the number of schools passed shows a large increase, namely :—

	1868.	1869.	1870.	1870–71.
First class - - -	1	3	4	6
Second class - - -	6	20	35	68
Third class - - -	89	173	206	239

The greatest advance is shown by the second-class schools, which are now in number nearly double the number of last year. In 1869 these schools formed only two per cent. of the whole number inspected; in 1870 they formed 10 per cent., and this last year they form 16 per cent. This is very encouraging; for to get a second class, a school must be a thoroughly good school.

Two of last year's second-class schools have risen to the first class, one, a school attached to the Moravian Mission; and the other, a school attached to the Baptist Mission.

The schools of the third class have made, for the most part, great advances, and promise well for the future. The results, when examined, prove the value of well-trained masters, and thus demonstrate the propriety of the attention lately given to training institutions.

Sixteen of the schools which were last year in the third class failed this year. This has been usually attributed to a change of managers or teachers.

Forty-seven new schools were recommended for, and have received, reduced "exceptional" grants, though not coming up to the standard.

It is now a rule that if a school which has received such a grant fails at the next examination to attain the third class, no further grant is made to it until it attains to the third class. And this rule has been observed.

The average attendance of pupils in the six first-class schools is 109; in the 68 second-class schools it is 66. The number of pupils present at the examination was 4,177 in excess of the average attendance, a fact that shows the interest with which the examinations are regarded.

The distribution of grants to the 311 schools which passed by the standard amounted to 7,584*l.* 12*s.*, and 440*l.* 7*s.* was allotted to the schools exceptionally recommended; 235*l.* had been intermediately advanced at the time of the half-yearly distribution, on the strength of their position last year, to other schools, which, however, failed eventually to pass this year. The total sum distributed in grants in aid was thus 8,260*l.* 9*s.*, being an increase of 2,403*l.* 3*s.*, or 41 per cent. on the grants of the year before. This increase has been participated in by schools of every denomination. The average grant to each school was:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
First class - - - -	54	3	4
Second class - - - -	34	17	$9\frac{3}{4}$
Third class - - - -	20	8	$11\frac{1}{4}$
Exceptionals - - - -	9	7	7

The total expenditure on the educational department out of the public revenues for the last five years amounted to the following sums:—

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	£
1866–67	3,987
1867–68	4,120
1868–69	6,424
1869–70	9,190
1870–71	11,778

In the estimates for the year now current 17,670*l.* is provided for the educational department, including 2,000*l.* for the preliminary expenses of a college expected to be opened.

The whole amount from all sources expended for educational purposes in the year is thus estimated:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
By the Government	11,778	7	1½
From school fees paid by parents	5,215	8	0
Contributions from religious societies, private contributions, and other sources	4,492	3	0
Schools not under Government inspection	416	15	4
Endowed schools	5,447	1	7
Normal schools	4,572	9	2
Private schools	4,000	0	0
Total	£35,922	4	2½

The last two items must be considered only as approximate estimates.

The payment of school fees by scholars is a point to which great importance is attached; and such fees are insisted upon in all aided schools. These fees range from 1½*d.* to 6*d.* a week for each pupil. Some of these elementary schools collect as much as 50*l.* a year in school fees.

It has been observed by the Inspector of Schools, and attention should be given to the fact, that wherever fees are rigidly demanded the schools are held by the parents of the children in higher estimation than elsewhere. And this feeling is the stronger the higher the amount of fees demanded. The Inspector finds that the requirement of school fees has a marked effect, very beneficial to the scholars. As a general rule, in the really good schools no difficulty is experienced in collecting school fees. The amount of such fees collected this year is by 1,431*l.* 1*s.* beyond what was collected last year. I do not think there could be any more conclusive proof of the increasing strength of the hold which education is now taking of the people.

This is shown also in other ways. In more than one instance in a remote country district, where there is no person of position to act as school manager or to organize and establish a school, the people have constituted a school committee among themselves; have built a rough school-house, and have employed a teacher without pecuniary assistance. Such efforts shall not fail for want of encouragement.

The principle of introducing some industrial element into schools is gaining strength, though slowly.

The industrial school noticed in my Report on the year 1869, established by the Reverend E. Bassett Key in St. Elizabeth, has

now fairly surmounted all opposition, owing to the indefatigable perseverance of Mr. Key. Those parents who most strongly opposed his efforts at first are now quite willing to allow their children to be put to work at school. Carpentering, coopering, and bricklaying are taught by skilled artizans, in addition to agricultural work. As a mark of the interest taken by the Government in this successful effort, and to help to meet the heavy expenditure peculiar to such an institution, a special grant has been provided and paid this present year on account of the year under report for Mr. Key's school.

A grant of 348*l.* 2*s.* has been made to schools in which the girls are taught sewing. The amount is small, but it serves its purpose.

The zeal shown by many school managers in the improvement of their schools is worthy of all praise. In many instances they are personally engaged day after day in the work of teaching. These gratuitous labours have contributed notably to the success which thus far has attended the combined efforts of associations of all religious denominations impartially aided by the Government. But what has been the main cause of the rapid success which has rewarded our united exertions in this Colony, is the perfect and unbroken harmony in which all denominations have worked in the cause of education and civilization.

Many persons, and amongst them some whose opinions on the subject deserved the highest respect, when the present system was first put into operation, feared that its provisions were unwisely stringent, and that too little concession was made by it to the old time-honoured style of teaching by rote.

That style is now, in the schools of Jamaica, all but a thing of the past; and I think that a consideration of the practical results above described, as showing how the popular sentiment has been affected by the contrary system, which admits nothing to be education at all that does not cultivate the mind of the scholar, will dispel all fears upon this point if such fears anywhere still linger.

Immigration.

Three ships arrived in 1870–71 with immigrants from Calcutta, viz. the 'Aliquis,' the 'Merchantman,', and the 'Hereford.' 1,379 souls embarked; 25 died on the voyage, and the following number landed:—

Males - - - - -	898
Females - - - - -	330
Non-adults - - - -	101
Infants - - - - -	25
Total - - -	1,354

The death-rate on board two of the vessels was remarkably small, being in the 'Aliquis' 0·6, and in the 'Hereford' 0·9 per cent. On the 'Merchantman,' however, it was 4·26 per cent. The surgeon accounted for this large number by the fact of many of these last immigrants having been afflicted with chronic diseases. Why this

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should be so in the case of the Coolies by one ship, more than in the case of those by another, is not apparent. Neither is any want of due care having been taken of the Coolies in any one of the ships apparent. It is hard to account satisfactorily for such difference in results, which, however, are of constant occurrence.

All three of these lots were composed of fine Coolies.

925 Coolies, whose term of ten years' industrial residence had expired, returned to India in the 'Aliquis' and 'Merchantman,' taking with them 7,229*l.* in Treasury bills, besides specie to an amount not ascertainable, but undoubtedly large.

In accordance with a suggestion of the Secretary of State, such of these return Coolies as desired to make wills were carefully advised and assisted in so doing by one of the sub-agents, who understands their language. Such of them as had been detained in the Colony beyond their time, in consequence of there having been no vessel available when their term of residence expired, received the regulated compensation by way of demurrage, in cash. On the whole these people seemed very well pleased with the care that had been taken for their comfort, and left the Colony expressing themselves gratefully to the officers of the Department on this account.

1,215 Coolies, whose period of industrial residence had expired, elected to remain in Jamaica, and received the bounty in lieu of land of 12*l.* for adults, and 6*l.* for non-adults of more than three years of age.

At the close of the year the number of Indian immigrants in the Colony under unexpired five years' indentures was - - - - - - - - -	4,533
The number who had served five years under indenture, but had not completed ten years' industral residence, was - - - - - - - - - - -	2,333
	6,866
Africans under indenture - - - - - -	11
Total - - - - - -	6,877

The census returns taken this year give the gross number of Indians in the Colony at 7,793. But I am satisfied that the real number exceeds this figure. I think it probable that there were fully 9,000 Indians in the Colony when the census was taken.

The health of the Coolies during the year is reported as having been good. There were 124 deaths within the year, being the smallest number of deaths in any one of the last four years, though the number of Coolies under indenture has very greatly increased during this period.

On the 23rd of April the Immigration Department was placed in charge of Mr. A. H. Alexander, as Acting Agent-General of Immigration. Under the active superintendence of this officer, the working of the Department has much improved. Under the old state of things this Department in Jamaica was in a disgraceful state, but it has now been completely reformed, under the new system introduced

with the new law of 1869. I can say that no pains have been spared to secure justice to all parties concerned, and I believe that this very difficult Department is now in fair order in this Colony.

The provisions of the law passed in 1869 for securing to the immigrant full payment of day wages at the rate fixed by law as a minimum, unless where he prefers task work; for protecting the right of the employer to a fair day's work; for putting an end to all stoppages of wages at the arbitrement of only one party to the bargain; and for securing to the Coolies, under all circumstances, regular daily rations during the whole of their five years' term of indenture, or for so long as rations are found to be better for them than full money payment; are enforced with intelligence and care, and I think I may now say, with general success. The treatment of the immigrants by their employers during the past year is reported (I believe quite correctly, as a general statement) as having been very good. There has been a serious and well-founded complaint only on one estate. The small number of desertions now-a-days is certainly a favourable indication.

The new system of building detached cottages for the immigrants, such as they have been accustomed to at home, instead of housing them in large barracks, has had a beneficial effect, being equally satisfactory, I believe, to employer and labourer. It is stated in the annual Report of the Department, that generally, these cottages have been carefully erected by the employers.

During the year four more Union hospitals have been opened. The number now in operation are eleven. On forty-one plantations there are immigrants located, who are still treated, when ill, on their plantation.

In the general Coolie Depôt and Hospital there were at the close of last year 57 inmates, and there were during the year 254 admissions. Of this total of 311 treated, 249 were discharged, and proceeded to find work on estates; of whom 209 were cured and 40 relieved, 9 died, and 53 were remaining in the Depôt at the close of the year. Of these 53, about 25 will be returned to India, as permanent invalids, during the season of 1872.

The great use of which this institution has been to Coolies out of indenture, will be apparent from these figures.

Applications were received for 2,400 immigrants to arrive in 1872, being an excess of 755 over the applications made for the year 1871; but owing to untoward circumstances in India (consequent, I venture to affirm, upon nothing which now really occurs in this Colony), whereby the operations of the Emigration Agent in Calcutta were suddenly checked, I fear that not more than two shiploads of the total number applied for will have been despatched.

It has been ascertained that about 1,400 immigrants will be entitled to return passage or bounty in 1872, and that by far the greater number of them will elect to remain in the Island, accepting the bounty. This large and increasing proportion of Coolies who prefer settling here permanently, to returning with free passage to their native country, is a good feature of the system, as now working which is not to be set at naught.

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Savings Banks.

Previous to the year 1870 there was no Government savings bank, but there were several private savings banks not under any Government control. The number of depositors, and the amount of the deposits in these private banks at the end of each year from 1866 to 1869, are shown in the following Table:—

Year.	Number of Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
			£
1866	8	2,276	56,740
1867	9	2,278	54,807
1868	8	2,524	58,913
1869	7	3,004	74,394

In 1870 the Government savings bank was opened, as was reported last year, and balances began to be transferred to it from the private banks. In the course of the year under report (1870–71) all these private banks, with the exception of the Kingston bank, closed, transferring their balances to the Government savings bank. The Kingston bank also has now closed. The following Table shows the operations of both classes of banks for the last two years:—

1870.			1871.		
	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.		No. of Depositors.	Amount of Depostis.
		£			£ s. d.
In the Government Savings Bank	469	16,200	In the Government Savings Bank	2,044	93,776 7 2
In the Private Savings Bank	2,205	63,486	In the Private Savings Bank	982	11,701 13 11
	2,674	79,686		3,026	105,478 1 1

Of the above amount 24,037*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* was deposited by Government and societies, and 81,440*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* by private individuals.

In addition to the head office of the Government savings bank in Kingston, and twelve branches at the parochial treasuries, nine out-stations have been opened to meet the convenience of persons who reside at long distances from the parochial treasuries. Officers of the bank attend at these out-stations at intervals during the month, when lodgments are received and withdrawals paid.

Trade.

The returns for the year now under report having been prepared for the financial year, it is not practicable to institute a perfectly correct comparison between them and the returns for preceding years, which have hitherto been prepared for the calendar year. But a comparison sufficiently useful for practical purposes can be made between the results of the financial year 1870-71 and those of the

previous calendar years. In fact, however, the figures now shown for the financial year 1870–71 include those belonging to the last quarter of 1870, already shown in the return for that year. As the year ending on the 30th of September remains, as it has always been, in use for all financial statements, it is convenient that trade statements should be made up for the same period.

The value of the imports for each of the last six years, excluding the value of the railway materials imported in 1868, 1869, 1870, and 1871 (amounting to 11,587*l.* in 1868, 10,353*l.* in 1869, and 213*l.* in 1870), is stated below:—

*1866	£1,030,796
*1867	859,186
*1868	1,012,279
*1869	1,214,061
*1870	1,300,212
1870–71	1,331,185

The following Table of the value of articles imported (free of duty since March, 1867) for agricultural or other industrial objects, is given in continuation of similar Tables in former Reports.

	1866.*	1867.*	1868.*	1869.*	1870.*	1870-71.
Steam-engines	nil.	101	3,046	6,904	5,460	4,738
Mills	1,722	1,072	1,882	3,822	3,434	9,825
Other machinery	5,186	6,879	8,023	6,644	7,844	11,420
Pans for boiling sugar	1,427	603	984	2,409	4,676	4,301
Pipes for fluids	28	374	1,331	1,202	2,493	2,165
Stills	211	559	1,174	2,977	1,698	1,878
Shooks of all sorts	23,580	18,023	19,479	17,362	12,180	13,187
Staves	1,241	5,587	6,418	3,847	3,823	5,431
Wood hoops	2,346	1,225	2,773	2,264	2,981	3,857
Iron, galvanized	464	1,238	1,985	1,902	3,142	3,818
„ other manufactures	638	3,184	1,174	1,215	1,933	84
Miscellaneous	851	858	2,719	2,004	3,348	2,369
	37,694	39,703	50,988	52,552	53,012	63,073

The steady increase in the importation of this class of articles shows conclusively the improved prospects of the industries to serve which they are imported.

The value of the exports for the last six years was as shown below:

	VALUES		
	of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
*1866	1,128,508	24,390	1,152,898
*1867	1,016,554	28,540	1,045,094
*1868	1,098,332	40,472	1,138,804
*1869	1,052,562	110,207	1,162,769
*1870	1,158,835	124,171	1,283,026
1870-71	1,196,532	52,153	1,248,685

* These figures are for the calendar year.

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The exports of the principal staples for the last six years were as shown in the following Table:—

Exports.	1866.*	1867.*	1868.*	1869.*	1870.*	1870-71.
Sugar - - - hhds.	33,637	31,206	36,259	29,268	30,747	37,010
Rum - - - phns.	18,754	18,834	20,274	15,270	16,897	19,376
Coffee - - - lbs.	8,413,532	6,264,861	7,758,985	5,025,812	9,047,284	5,508,989
Pimento - - - lbs.	4,866,239	7,595,800	4,373,259	6,575,249	5,243,109	6,857,830
Dyewoods, fustic, and logwood - tons	36,570	48,481	49,129	118,678	84,744	59,951
Ginger - - - lbs.	1,550,166	1,728,075	2,036,921	1,261,873	680,492	632,031
Arrowroot - - lbs.	70,204	44,566	27,346	11,731	6,343	5,820

The export of sugar last year was larger than it has been for nineteen years. The coffee crop last year was much below the average, but it will not be fair to compare it with the crop of 1870, which was a very exceptionally large one. The falling off in the export of logwood was to be looked for, as the great and sudden rise of this trade in 1869 was caused by the disturbances in the neighbouring Island of Hayti, which checked the exportation thence of this dyewood. To the restoration of comparative quiet in that Island is also to be ascribed the falling off of the entrepôt trade here, the export of bonded articles to Hayti having fallen from 81,286*l.* in 1870 to 5,783*l.* in 1871. From a return recently presented to the Legislative Council, it has been shown, to the great surprise of the most experienced colonists, that an astonishing extent of sugar cultivation is carried on among the peasantry; no less than 5,615 small sugar mills having been ascertained to be in use. I have heard the average make of each of these small mills estimated by an experienced planter at what is equivalent to two hogsheads of sugar. In some cases the sugar thus produced is sent down to the coast and exported. But by far the largest part of it must be consumed in the Island. In my last year's Report I said that 6,000 hogsheads might fairly be added to the quantity exported to show the gross quantity of sugar produced in the Island. But this discovery gives us reason to believe that the additional amount, as then estimated, might well have been more than doubled, for no inconsiderable quantity of sugar, the produce of large plantations, is sold for Island consumption. Cultivation among the large proprietors has been considerably extended in many cases. In the parish of St. Andrew four abandoned properties have been reclaimed and added to the Constant Spring Estate. At this Estate, at Mona, in the same parish, and at Bushy Park, in the parish of St. Catherine, irrigation has been adopted on a large scale, with gratifying results. Irrigation is also largely practised at Albion, in St. Thomas, where also has just been established, by its very enterprising proprietor, the only vacuum pan and centrifugal apparatus in use in the Colony. The sugar produced by this machinery is of a very superior character, equalling, I am told, the best Demerara crystallized sugar, the sort of sugar which is sold for cash in very large quantity in Demerara, for consumption in the United States, in the form in which it leaves the

* These figures are for the calendar year.

Colonial sugar-house. I am informed that the Albion crystallized sugar is selling at a high price at home. It is also consumed, and at a very high price, in the Island. This is quite a new feature in the history of Jamaica sugar manufacture, which has long been notorious for servile adherence to ancient routine.

The cultivation of tobacco has been commenced on a respectable scale, and, as I am informed, with commercial success, in the parish of St. Andrew; for the skilled labour on which Cubans, accustomed to the cultivation of the plant and the manufacture of cigars, are employed. The collector reports that the quality of the cigars now produced ranks with that of Havanna tobacco. Several small settlers from Cuba are turning their attention to tobacco cultivation. Of late for the first time I have observed amongst the advantages set forth in advertisements for the sale of small properties, as an inducement to purchasers, the adaptability of the land for the cultivation of tobacco. For myself I do not entertain a doubt that tobacco of fine quality will very soon rank as one of the great staple exports of this Colony.

An increase of coffee cultivation on small holdings is reported in the parishes of St. Andrew, St. Thomas, and Manchester.

The fruit trade with America, to the springing up of which I drew attention in my Report of last year, is satisfactorily progressing. Besides the facilities for transport which are now afforded by regular steam communication from Kingston with New York, the trade continues to increase on the north side of the Island by means of sailing vessels, and has now extended from Portland in the East, to Hanover in the West, from which last-named place several shipments of fruit have been made within the last few weeks. The value of the bananas, oranges, and other fruit exported in 1870 was 901*l.*, in 1871 it amounted to 2,736*l.* The exports also of bamboo for paper making have risen from 854*l.* to 2,074*l.*

Although the number of vessels that have traded here in the past year is not so large as in the preceding year, there has been a considerable increase of tonnage.

From other evidence I was well aware that the several industries of this Colony had grown in a remarkable manner, in the last few years of tranquillity, confidence, and improved social feeling; but I was not prepared for the evidence of the extent of this growth which is afforded by the following statement of the circulation of the notes of the Colonial Bank in this Colony. Practically no gold circulates, therefore these bank notes and silver constitute the only currency.

Year.	Average Circulation.
	£
1866	92,154
1867	83,022
1868	86,672
1869	109,730
1870	115,969
1871	127,356
Actual amount on 29th February, 1872	170,000

As the comparative amount of the circulating medium must be an index to the comparative amount of business transactions in the whole Colony for auy given time, this statement seems to prove that the

class of business transacted by cash payments in pounds sterling now done in Jamaica is double, and more than double, in value of what was done four or five years ago.

But this is not all. The circulating medium is composed wholly of bank notes and British silver, and whatever business is not transacted in cheques, bills, or bank notes, must be transacted in silver. It is to the amount of the transfers of silver that we must look as the index of the industries of the masses. What was the amount of silver coin in circulation in 1865, there are no means of knowing. But whatever may have been that amount, the following additions have been made to it in every subsequent year by actual importations from England by the bank. It must be observed that not a sixpence that is imported, speaking practically, is ever carried out of the Island.

Years.	Amount of British Silver imported by the Bank.
	£
1866	10,000
1867	25,000
1868	25,000
1869	45,000
1870	10,000
1871	16,000
Up to 5th March, 1872	24,000
Total	£155,000

Doubtless silver is hoarded, but the hoardings must be limited, and money must be made before it can be hoarded.

There is no reason to suppose that the busines transacted by means of cheques and bills, not requiring any use of notes or coin, did not keep pace with the other classes of business.

I think that the above figures, properly considered, should be gratifying to all interested in the material progress of Jamaica.

Irrigation.

In my Report on the Blue Book of 1870, I mentioned that the services of a civil engineer of Indian experience had been engaged to make surveys, plans, and estimates for an irrigation canal from the Rio Cobre through the plain in which Spanish Town (St. Jago de la Vega) and Old Harbour Market are situated. From my first arrival in Jamaica I was struck by the facilities which this fine stream, and the contour of the country afforded, for bringing the whole of this extensive and dry plain under copious irrigation, whereby I believe it may reasonably be expected that the land may be made in the course of time worth very many times its present value, and a notable increase may be added to the staples of the Colony.

Mr. Hutchins, the engineer employed, has completed his plans and estimates, generally, for the first portion of this work. The sanction of the Secretary of State has been obtained for its execution; and on the Reports of Mr. Hutchins and the Surveyor-General, a Bill has been introduced, and read a first time in the Legislative Council, for giving the necessary legal sanction to the scheme.

The Rio Cobre Irrigation Canal, according to the approved project, will consist of a great dam, with the necessary sluices thrown across the river just before it leaves a narrow hilly gorge, a main channel of about three miles in length, which after a short cutting comes out upon the upper part of the plain above Spanish Town, and four separate branches. The first and northernmost branch will run westerly along the higher part of the plain, past the sugar estates of St. Dorothy, to Old Harbour Market, at which place is the present terminus of the Kingston Railway. The second and easternmost branch will run round Spanish Town, and crossing the river by an aqueduct a little below that place, will irrigate the three sugar estates called the Caymanas, and a considerable quantity of other land which will certainly become immediately cane land, all lying on the east bank of the river, in the direction of Kingston. The main line, and the last-mentioned branch will be the first part of the project to be constructed, inasmuch as the owners of the sugar estates above mentioned agree to take water to such an extent as, with what is considered certain to be got even on the first opening of the canal from around Spanish Town, is estimated to yield a sum equal to five per cent. on the cost of this first part of the project, which includes the expensive head-works, and the cutting for the main trunk line. The third and fourth branches will run southernly to the sea at Port Henderson and the Great Salt Pond, respectively.

The estimated cost of the headworks, and of the main canal from them to the first branch, three miles in length (which is fairly distributable over the four branches in proportion to the water to be carried by each), is 21,332*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* The estimated cost of the continuation of the main line from the first to the second branch, as far as the aqueduct, near which place the second, third, and fourth branches all take off, is 5,665*l.* And the estimated cost of the aqueduct, and the rest of the second branch (called the Caymanas branch), is 5,517*l.* 6*s.* 1½*d.*, making in all for this first part of the work, 32,504*l.* 10s. 1½*d.* It is supposed that the remaining three branches are not likely to cost more than about 27,500*l.*, which would make the cost of the whole project 60,000*l.* Of course the principal expense will be upon the headworks and main canal, whilst the remunerative part of the work will be the several branches.

The main canal will be constructed to carry 45,000 cubic yards of water an hour, having a bottom width of 22 feet and a depth of 6 feet. At the driest season of the year, about the month of April, Mr. Hutchins estimates the minimum quantity of water flowing in the Rio Cobre at 30,000 cubic yards an hour. Generally a supply of at least 45,000 cubic yards an hour canbe depended on. Colonel Mann, R.E., Director of Roads, and Surveyor General, who has had several years' experience in the Colony, is under the impression, from observations made by himself in 1869 when the river was particularly low, that the minimum is rather more than the above estimate.

There can be little doubt that for a long time, at least, there will be available from the original canal-works, enough water for all the land demanding irrigation. But to provide for a fuller supply at the dry season than the river affords at that season, should it come to pass that cultivation and irrigation should increase so much as to

require more than all the water of the river at certain times, land will be acquired where a vast resevoir for surplus water, to be stored in wet weather, may at any time hereafter be easily formed, large enough to afford from itself alone a supply of water at the rate of 45,000 cubic yards an hour, for about 26 days.

Water power can be provided at several places, but there is one spot in particular where provision for a fall of 20 feet could be made capable of giving full water power, at a cheap rate, to a large central sugar factory, should any enterprising company or capitalist desire to establish one there. I believe that there are few parts of the irrigable tract which would not grow sugar, under irrigation.

The entire area of the plain to be watered is about 54,000 acres. Deducting from this quantity about one-fifth, say 11,000 acres, for land not likely to come under actual irrigation, there may be taken to be about 43,000 acres, which are all likely to take water, eventually, to some extent more or less. As sugar cane is supposed to require not more than one cubic yard an hour for the acre (even if this estimate be too low, which is possible), there will be an ample supply of water for sugar cane, and even for rice should rice be cultivated. Tobacco, guinea grass, corn, and most ordinary crops, require much less than a cubic yard an hour for the acre. It is proposed to charge 20*s.* a year for this quantity of water.

At this rate the the profit from irrigation is manifest, for it is believed that irrigation, well managed, doubles the production of sugar cane; whilst it is believed to increase the production of guinea grass, and other crops, in equal, or perhaps greater proportion. It enables the agriculturist to convert a dry and valueless common into a garden, whilst where cultivation already exists, it makes the cultivator independent of seasons.

As a paying project itself, it seems hardly possible that an irrigation work, commanding land naturally dry, and in a climate very liable to seasons of drought, which is estimated to cost no more than about thirty shillings for every acre commanded, should fail to be a paying speculation.

Census.

A census of the population of this Island was taken on the 5th of June, 1871. The last census was taken in 1861, and there was one before taken in 1844.

The population at each of these periods was entered as shown in the following Table:—

	1844.	1861.	1871.
Males - -	181,633	213,521	246,573
Females - -	195,800	227,743	259,581
Total -	377,433	441,264	506,154

showing an increase of 63,831, or 16·91 per cent in the seventeen years from 1844 to 1861, and of 64,890, or 14·7 per cent in the last ten years, being a largely increased ratio.

There is no doubt that many errors of omission were made in taking this last census. But there is no reason to suppose that the

census on either of the two former occasions was much more or less correct than was that on the last occasion. Probably the census of 1844 was the fullest, as at that time there was a much smaller proportion of the population in the remote parts of the Island, than there has been in later times. On the whole I should think the census a tolerably safe guide upon the question of the increase of the population.

In considering this question it must be borne in mind that between 1844 and 1851 two epidemics of cholera and one of small-pox committed very great ravages, while from 1861 to 1871 there has been no epidemic or other cause to affect the natural increase of the population.

Compared with 1861, there is in 1871 a decrease, as shown in the annexed Table, of 715 white inhabitants, and an increase of 19,281 of the mixed race, and of 46,333 of the black inhabitants.

NUMBER AND COLOUR OF PERSONS.

	WHITE.			COLOURED.			BLACK.		
	Sex.		Number.	Sex.		Number.	Sex.		Number.
	Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.	
1871	6,909	6,192	13,101	48,048	52,298	100,346	191,498	201,209	392,707
1861	7,295	6,521	13,816	38,223	42,842	81,065	167,277	179,097	346,374

Post Office.

The system of tri-weekly posts established in 1868, in lieu of the system of bi-weekly posts, which had been in existence for twenty-one years, has worked most satisfactorily, as it has afforded a great convenience to the public at no expense to the chest.

I mentioned on a previous occasion that this step in advance was not popular at the time. In a late Report from the Postmaster, describing the success of the tri-weekly system, Mr. Sullivan informs me that the same aversion to all change was displayed when the old-established system of one post in the week was superseded by the bi-weekly system, which has now in turn given place to a tri-weekly system.

The rates of inland postage in the case of prepaid letters have now been reduced from three pence to two pence per half-ounce. There is a penny rate for local delivery letters, and all other matter carried by post are charged double rates, unless prepaid.

The revenue and expenditure of the Post Office for the last four years were as shown below:—

	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
1867–68	11,362	11,185
1869–69	12,765	11,970
1869–70	12,969	12,506
1870–71	13,628	12,842

The increase of correspondence shown by these figures is satisfactory.

The number of miles travelled this year in the conveyance of the mails throughout the Island amounts to 275,712; the matter conveyed being:—

	Island.	United Kingdom and Foreign Countries
Letters - -	704,300	169,600
Newspapers - -	256,800	173,000
Book packets -	37,900	20,400

and the number of registered letters received and despatched from the General Post Office were:—

Island - - - - - - - -	18,166
United Kingdom and Foreign - - -	2,150

Mail communication between Jamaica, the United Kingdom, and foreign countries, is carried on by four steam ship companies, viz.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (English), whose vessels run twice a month between Southampton and Jamaica, and twice a month between Colon and Jamaica. By means of the intercolonial steamers of this line regular communication is also kept up with the whole of the West Indies.

The West Indies and Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company (English) run once a month from Liverpool to Jamaica; once a month from Colon to Jamaica; once a month from Jamaica to Tampico and Vera Cruz in Mexico; and twice a month from Jamaica to Liverpool.

The Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company (United States) run from New York to Kingston and thence to Colon and back by the same route once every month.

The Campagnie Générale Trans-Atlantique (French) run their ships from Europe, viâ Cuba, to Jamaica and return for the same places once a month; and between Colon and Jamaica once a month.

General Remarks.

The health of the Island was good during the whole year.

In consequence of cases of small-pox on board, or of foul bills of health, it was necessary to place several vessels in quarantine. There were three cases of small-pox in the Lazaretto in May, 1871, in all of which the patients recovered. One fatal case occurred in Kingston, in the month of September, 1871, in the person of a Cuban gentleman who had arrived two weeks before from Santiago de Cuba, where the disease had but just broken out.

Within the current year several cases of small-pox have occurred in different parts of the Island; but this disease has nowhere assumed the character of an epidemic, and most of the cases have recovered. During the year no exertion was spared to press upon the Government Medical Department the importance of carrying vaccination to the greatest possible extent. Much was accomplished in this way; but the Island is still far from being protected by universal vaccination.

For about three months and a half a rigid quarantine was enforced

against cholera, which was raging in Cuba. But there was no manifestation of this disease amongst the many passengers from that Island, and no case has occurred amongst the inhabitants of this Island.

Telegraphic communication has been established by means of the Cuba Submarine Telegraph Company, connecting Jamaica with Santiago de Cuba and Havanna, and thence with America and Europe, and by means of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company connecting Jamaica with the other West Indian Islands and Demerara. The cable from Jamaica to Colon has still to be completed, which will connect Jamaica with Central America and the West Coast of South America.

The traffic returns of the short line of railway (about 25½ miles) is returned as follows:—

Passengers	120,517
Horses	646
Carriages	170
Cattle	597
Sheep	502
Bundles of 28 lbs. Guinea grass	293,267
Bundles of 30 lbs. wood	270,618
Tons merchandise	12,886

In February, 1871, a memorial was presented from a large number of merchants and other influential gentlemen in Kingston, pointing out the advantages to be derived from direct communication with the United States, and praying that, as the finances of the Colony were now in a highly satisfactory state, the subsidy to a steamer to run regularly between Kingston and New York, which had been discontinued in 1866 on account of the then alarming financial position, should be revived. The steamer which was subsidized in 1866, and for some time before, only ran between Kingston and New York. It was of no great benefit to trade, for the quantity of freight and the number of passengers it conveyed were small, and it afforded no indirect advantages to the Colony. Experience, therefore, did not promise much from a special line of steamers, plying only between Kingston and New York. But it was believed that if one of the American line of large passenger steamers, plying between New York and Colon, could be induced for a reasonable subsidy to touch regularly at Kingston on the voyage both ways, such a plan would be worthy of a trial.

For besides the direct advantages of such a line, as a means of communication between the two places, it was thought that the arrival in Kingston Harbour of a large number of American passengers to and fro monthly, who would all surely land for the day, would tend to make this fine Island better known in the United States. It is not doubtful that a number of enterprising Americans settling here, would do more to waken up the colonists, and to incite them to avail themselves of their natural advantages, than any other form of stimulant. And it is certain that the wonderful climate of the Jamaica mountains of medium elevation, only requires to be known in North America to make this Island the winter resort of thousands of invalids from that part of the world.

Accordingly a temporary arrangement was made for paying a subsidy at the rate of 5,000*l.* per anuum to the Pacific Mail Steam Ship

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Company; and the large steamers of that company now touch regularly twice a month, doing the voyage between Kingston and New York in six days, and carrying among other things a large quantity of fruit from the Island. The result of this experiment has been satisfactory.

There has not been the slightest interruption to the perfect quiet and good order, which may now be pronounced to be the characteristic of Jamaica.

In the month of July many persons in the parish of St. Thomas fancied that a disturbance was likely to occur at the trial of some ejectment cases, wherein private parties were the plaintiffs, which were about to come on in the District Court at Bath, a village about ten miles from Morant Bay.

From the result of my inquiries I felt pretty sure that no breach of the public peace was contemplated; but as a matter of precaution, the constabulary of the district were strongly reinforced. On this occasion two parties of constabulary under arms started from Kingston and the depôt in Spanish Town, at two or three hours' notice, and did their forced march in excellent style and spirit.

On the day of trial, though the whole of the cases went against the settlers, there was not the slightest attempt at disturbance, or appearance of a disturbance having been thought of. Everything passed off well. But the show of strength can have done no harm.

This trifling affair was magnified and distorted in a sensational telegram published in New York, which was copied in the London newspapers, and excited some unfounded alarm.

(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

8th April, 1872.

[J. C. B.]

BRITISH HONDURAS.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Administrator HARLEY, C.B., to Governor Sir J. P. GRANT, K.C.B.

SIR, Government House, Belize, April 10, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1871, and to submit the following Report thereon:—

Legislation.

1. The year under report is the first year of the new Constitution as a Crown Colony, which came into operation in April last. The Act 4 Vict., ses. 3, cap 1, "to alter and amend the political constitution of this Colony" having passed the Legislative Assembly on the 13th day of December, 1870, and having received the Royal assent, wassproclaimed on the 10th day of April, 1871.

2. Twenty-seven Ordinances were passed under the new Constitu-

tion, twenty-five of which received Her Majesty's gracious confirmation and allowance. The principal of these and of most importance are the following:—

Ordinance 2, of 1871, provides for raising a revenue by a Land and Property Tax, and is a charge of three per cent. upon property of $35 rentald or upwards, and falls mostly upon buildings, leaving the land almost practically untouched; also a payment of $24 for each mahogany and logwood work of the extent of three miles base, and and on all lands lying off the coast of the Colony one dollar per square mile or part of a mile.

Ordinance 3, of 1871, imposed an additional ad valorem import duty of six per cent. on all unrated articles, allowing however a drawback of the same amount upon all unbroken packages of goods imported into the Colony on their being exported therefrom within two years. This increased duty came into operation on the 17th April, 1871, and will expire on the 31st July, 1872 with the other Tariff Act.

Ordinance 5, of 1871, provides a contribution of 40*l.* per man per annum towards the maintenance of a second company of troops to be stationed in the Colony.

Ordinance 7, of 1871, makes provision for taking the census of the Colony in 1871.

Ordinance 10, of 1871, provides for the prospective reduction of the salaries of public officers, and the amalgamation of others as vacancies occur.

Ordinance 14, of 1871, makes some necessary alterations in the law consequent on the change of Constitution.

Ordinance 15, of 1871, puts an end to the establishment and endowment from the public revenues of the Protestant Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches within the Colony, and is still under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

Ordinance 18, of 1871, provides a pension for the retiring Chief Justice.

Ordinance 20, of 1871, provides for the better management of the public Hospital, Poor House, and Lunatic Asylum, which was much needed, and makes the appointment of public Medical Officer permanent instead of annual as hitherto.

Ordinance 23, of 1871, provided the supply for 1872.

3. The remaining Ordinances do not appear to require special notice in this place.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The financial year 1871 is the first under the new Constitution, and commencing from April, shows very satisfactory results.

5. The revenue collected from 1st January to 31st December, 1871, amounted to 42,880*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* sterling, and is the largest ever raised in the Colony in any one year, being an increase over that of 1870 of 9,849*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* sterling, whereas the expenditure for the same years respectively was 25,453*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* in 1871, against 26,220*l.* 2*s.* in 1870, or 766*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* less in 1871.

6. The revenue of 1871 was thus increased by the Land and Property Tax imposed by Ordinance 2 of 1871, which yielded 2,255*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* and the additional 6 per cent. duty placed upon imports

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by Ordinance 3 of 1871, which gave an increase on unrated articles alone of 7,145*l.* 8*s.* 8½*d.*

7. The import duties showed considerable variation, but, with the amounts above stated and including other sources of revenue, gave an increase of 11,765*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* against a decrease of 1,916*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*

8. The expenditure of the year 1871 was 25,453*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*, and less than that of 1870 by 766*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*, but this was only arrived at by a most rigid economy, which, while providing for efficiency, refused to sanction unnecessary outlay.

9. The increased expenditure amounted to 3,588*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*, and included items ofimportance which were required, viz. :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Gaol and district prisons - - - -	210	2	11
Drawbacks - - - - - - -	1,393	11	2
Payments on account of military debt -	1,000	0	0
Public works - - - - - -	119	11	0
Census - - - - - - -	200	0	0
Purchase of buildings at Corosal - - -	400	0	0

These items amount to 3,323*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, or nearly the entire extra expenditure.

10. The decrease, however, was 4,355*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*, or 766*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* less than the expenditure of 1870, notwithstanding the heavy payments which are above shown, and is the smallest expenditure in comparison with revenue of any year since the Colony has had a Constitution.

Public Debt.

11. The public debts of the Colony at the end of the year 1871 amounted to 27,342*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*, under the following heads :—

1st. The South of Belize Improvement Loan, raised in 1863 and 1864, remains with a balance due on 31st December, 1871, of 13,040*l.* 16*s.*, with provision for a sinking fund of one per cent. per annum import duty upon all articles imported into the Colony, until 1880, for payment of the principal and interest.

2nd. The Immigration Loan of 16,550*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, raised for immigration purposes in Belize and London, towards the payment of the principal and interest of which there is a credit at the sinking fund to the 31st December, 1871, of 9,652*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* leaving the sum of 6897*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*, with interest at 6 per cent per annum to date of extinction in 1877, yet to be provided from general revenue.

3rd. The balance of debt to the Imperial Government on account of military expenditure incurred in defence of the frontier in 1866 and 1867, and the extra cost for maintenance of an additional company of troops out of Belize to 31st December, 1871, amounts to 7,404*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

12. The above comprise the entire liabilities of the Colony, and with reference to the last item Her Majesty's Government have consented to receive a subsidy of 5,000*l.* per annum for three years for the additional company of troops required on the frontier, and in liquidation of the debt, and to allow the balance to remain over until more prosperous times arrive.

Military Expenditure.

13. The total cost of the military establishment for 1871, including the pay of the staff of the several departments, pensions, rent of quarters, lodging allowance, engineer and barrack services, amounted in all to 13,718*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, of which the Colony will bear about 5,000*l.*, leaving the balance, 8,715*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, as the expenditure of the Imperial Government.

14. There are no local forces either of militia or volunteers in the Colony, nor is the number or material available from which such bodies could be raised with any hope of stability and efficiency.

Public Works.

15. The expenditure on public works in 1871 amounted to 1,704*l.* 4*s.* 6½*d.*, and the principal works undertaken were—painting and repairing lighthouses, erecting wall round the gaol and gate-house, reflooring main bridge at Belize, constructing a scow for the Haulover Ferry, repairs at Government House, which were much needed, reconstruction of premises purchased at Corosal for Court House, District Gaol, &c., and maintenance of roads and bridges at Belize and in the country. The plans for a new hospital, which is felt to be a great necessity, have been submitted, and the funds provided, which it is hoped will be erected in 1872. The public buildings of the Colony generally are in a wretched condition, and require early attention and outlay.

16. A public wharf was also constructed at Corosal, which is felt to be a great boon; the bungays of the country can run alongside and take in and discharge cargo rapidly, and with comparative ease, even to the heavy hogsheads of sugar which are now being shipped from there.

Imports and Exports.

17. The value of the imports of 1871 was 180,662*l.*: of this total there was 116,912*l.* 16*s.* 5½*d.* from Great Britain; from the United States, 41,038*l.* 11*s.* 9½*d.*; and the remainder from other foreign countries and the colonies.

18. These imports show a falling off of 3,675*l.* 12*s.* as compared with those of 1870.

19. The total exports of the year 1871 amounted to 207,672*l.* 2*s.*, of which 101,310*l.* 8*s.* 0¼*d.*, was the produce of the Colony, the remainder being the value of produce and manufactures in transit through British Honduras on importation, and re-exported to the neighbouring states, and the return of cochineal, coffee, hides, hemp, indigo, india-rubber, sarsaparilla, brought to Belize for exportation to England.

20. The sugar shipped was 1,961 tons, 7 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs., which at 18*l.* a ton value at Belize amounted to 35,304*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*, or an increase over 1870 of 590 tons and 18 lbs., equal to 16,105*l.* 11*s.* 6*d*

21. 11,651 gallons of rum were exported, equal to 873*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*, at 1*s.* 6*d.* a gallon value at Belize.

22. Mahogany cutting was renewed, and logwood cutting con-

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tinued, and there was exported 1,983,120 feet of the former, and 11,794 tons of the latter, or an increase over 1870 of 637,454 feet of mahogany, and 2,628 tons logwood. Cedar and rosewood also contributed, the former 71,289 feet, the latter 134 tons.

23. The whole value of the actual produce of the Colony exported in 1871 was 101,310*l.* 8*s.* 0¾*d.*, and consisted of the following articles:—

		£	*s.*	*d.*
Sugar	valued at	35,304	11	6
Mahogany	„	24,789	0	0
Logwood	„	37,741	6	0
Cocoanuts	„	817	7	0
Cedar	„	816	17	0¾
Rosewood	„	402	0	0
Turtle	„	565	10	0
Rum	„	873	16	6
		£101,310	8	0¾

24. Whereas the value of articles in transit, produce and manufacture, through British Honduras amounted to 106,361*l.* 13*s.* 11¼*d.*, exported to the following countries:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
United Kingdom	24,549	12	0¼
United States	17,404	4	11
Mexico	4,800	0	0
Guatemala	10,749	1	0
Nicaragua	2,419	7	6
Spanish Honduras	46,439	8	6
	£106,361	13	11¼

Shipping.

25. There entered at the port of Belize during the year 1871, 248 ships with cargoes, of an aggregate tonnage of 18,713 tons, of which 211 were British, of an aggregate of 16,061 tons.

26. 114 ships were entered in ballast, of an aggregate of 6,174 tons, of which 100 were British of an aggregate of 2,124 tons; in all during 1871, 362 vessels of 24,887 tons, with crews numbering 1,530.

During the year 1871, there cleared from the port of Belize 259 vessels, of 24,662 tons, with cargoes, and 103 vessels of 1,073 tons in ballast; in all 362 vessels of 25,735 tons, and numbering 1,566 in crews.

Executive and Legislative Councils.

28. The Executive Council of British Honduras under the new Constitution consists of the following official members:—

The Officer Commanding H.M. troops.
The Colonial Secretary,
The Colonial Treasurer, and
The Attorney-General.

29. The Officer Commanding H.M. troops, if a field-officer, is the senior member, but if under that rank he takes place after the Attorney-General.

30. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, five of whom are official, and four unofficial, who are nominated by the Lieutenant-Governor, and appointed by the Crown; they take precedence in the following order:—

The Chief Justice,
The Colonial Secretary,
The Officer Commanding H.M. troops,
The Treasurer,
The Attorney-General,
The Hon. Philip Toledo,
The Hon. Joseph Henry Phillips,
The Hon. Thomas John Blockley, and
The Hon. John Eadie Mutrie.

31. The only changes which took place in the Council since it was constituted in April, 1871, to the close of the year was that of the President, by the appointment of Lieut.-Colonel R. W. Harley, C.B., 2nd West India Regiment, as Administrator of the Government during the absence of Lieut.-Governor W. W. Cairns on leave, and the Acting Attorney-General, Mr. Dillet, being replaced by the Attorney-General, Mr. Plues, in December, on his return from England.

32. The Legislative Council, which has taken the place of the Legislative Assembly, abolished by the local Act of 34 Vic., sess. 3, cap. 1, works very satisfactorily, and is much better adapted to the requirements of this Colony, and more practical in its operation, than the old House of Assembly.

Civil Establishment.

33. The only permanent change made in 1871 was that of public Medical Officer, which under Ordinance 20, of 1871, from being an annual, was made a permanent appointment, and conferred on Mr. A. Hunter, who had held it for some years under the previous arrangements.

34. The principal temporary changes which took place in the civil establishment during 1871, were the appointment of Lieut.-Colonel R. W. Harley, C.B., 2nd West India Regiment, as Administrator of the Government during the absence on leave of Lieut.-Governor Cairns from the 22nd June, the resumption of Mr. Plues, on his return from leave on 24th December, of the office of Attorney-General, held during his absence by Mr. Dillet, the Clerk of Courts, and the appointment of Surgeon to the northern district, which on the resignation of Dr. Foster was given to the military staff assistant-surgeon stationed at Corosal, as a temporary measure at half salary.

Foreign Consuls.

35. These gentlemen reside in Belize, and with one exception, that of the Commercial Agent for the United States, are all engaged in commerce.

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36. The changes during the year were the appointment of Mr. Cramer as Consul for the German Empire, having previously held the office as Consul to the North German Confederation.

37. Mr. Prindle, Commercial Ageut for the United States, has been allowed to act as Agent for the Swiss Confederation also.

38. Mr. Mutrie has been appointed Vice-Consul for Guatemala, vice Binney, resigned.

Ecclesiastical.

39. Two Episcopalian churches, one Presbyterian, two Wesleyan, and one Baptist chapel, also one Roman Catholic church in Belize, capable in all of containing 2,635 persons, with ministers of each denomination, provide for the spiritual need of the people, the average attendance of whom at the several places of worship on Sundays is about 1,950.

40. While at Corosal, where there is no Protestant church, the congregation is accommodated in a spacious school-room, capable of holding 200, the attendance at which is about 90.

41. There is a Roman church also, built by the Jesuit fathers, assisted by the Spanish population.

42. There is a Wesleyan chapel at Consejo, nine miles distant, which accomodates 100, the attendance at which is about 35, while services are held at Orange Walk, Caledonia, and amongst the Indians, which are attended by about 160 on each occassion.

43. The disendowment and disestablishment of the Protestant Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches is intended to come into operation from the 1st January, 1873, but the Ordinance to effect the same, passed in 1871, is still under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

Education.

44. There are eight schools in Belize, viz.:—one Episcopalian, one Roman Catholic, three Wesleyan, one Presbyterian, and two Baptist, receiving aid from Government, and also assisted by voluntary contributions.

45. The average daily attendance is 615. There are also five private schools at Belize. At Corosal, in the Northern District, there is a Wesleyan school, with a daily attendance of 68, and a Roman Catholic school, with a daily attendance of 63.

46. At Stann Creek in the Southern District, there is also a Roman Catholic school, with an average daily attendance of 83.

47. It will thus be seen while the number daily receive instruction throughout the Colony, that 829 children upon the school rolls is 1,602, or nearly double.

48. The district schools are conducted under the direction and rules of the Board of Education, and receive the same aid from Government in proportion to numbers as those at Belize.

49. During 1871, the amount paid by Government was 892*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, and by subscription 352*l.* 18*s.* 7½*d.*, in all 1,245*l.* 3*s.* 10½*d.*

50. Upon the whole these schools are fairly managed, but I cannot lay too much stress upon the value I attach to a closer and more active supervision of both schools and teachers, and I cannot but

think that large results would spring from the appointment of a competent Inspector sent out from England, who might be partly paid out of any surplus funds at the credit of the Education Board from the unapplied portion of the annual grant, or in full, if an additional 200*l.* a year be voted.

51. Schools are also required at Orange Walk on the New River, with its thriving population, and at Punta Consejo, at the mouth of the Hondo, which I hope to see established during 1872.

Civil and Criminal Justice.

52. The sittings of the Supreme Court continue to be held quarterly at Belize as hitherto, but in addition it has been found expedient to extend those sittings to Corosal, in the Northern District, four times a year also; where a population of 10,000 people by the census of December, 1871, requires the administration of justice nearer home than having to travel a distance of 90 miles to Belize to obtain it, at much inconvenience, loss of valuable time in being taken away from their plantations and several industries, and considerable expense which they can ill afford. An Ordinance has therefore been introduced and passed by the Legislative Council, which will come into operation in July, 1872.

53. There were but 28 convictions in 1871 by the Supreme Court, under the following heads:—

	1870.			1871.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Arson	1	–	1	–	–	–
Assault, common	–	–	–	1	–	1
„ with intent to commit rape	–	–	–	2	–	2
„ occasioning actual bodily harm	1	–	1	–	–	–
Cutting and wounding feloniously	5	–	5	2	–	2
„ „ „ unlawfully	2	–	2	–	–	–
Embezzlement	1	–	1	1	–	1
Escape from prison	3	–	3	3	–	3
Forgery	–	–	–	1	–	1
Cattle (*see* Larceny).						
„ feloniously killing	–	–	–	1	–	1
„ „ wounding	–	–	–	1	–	1
Larceny, simple	3	1	4	5	1	6
„ Burglary	–	–	–	1	–	1
„ by servants	–	–	–	1	1	2
„ Shopbreaking	1	–	1	–	–	–
„ Housebreaking	2	–	2	1	–	1
„ in a dwelling-house to the value of 5*l.* and upwards	7	–	7	–	–	–
„ of a heifer	1	–	1	–	–	–
„ of a horse	1	–	1	–	–	–
„ accessory after the fact to	–	–	–	1	–	1
Manslaughter	1	–	1	1	–	1
Perjury	–	–	–	–	–	–
Poisoning, administering with intent to injure	–	–	–	1	–	1
Rape	1	–	1	1	–	1
Receiving stolen goods	–	–	–	2	–	2
Robbery from the person	5	1	6	–	–	–
	35	2	37	26	2	28

which shows a decrease in the number of felonies and grave offences, as compared with 1870, of nine cases.

54. The census taken in December, 1871, returns a population of 24,710, which gives a proportion of serious crime as somewhat over one in a thousand.

55. All police and minor offences are dealt with summarily by the police magistrate in Belize, and the paid magistrates in the Northern and North-Western Districts at Corosal and Orange Walk, and in the Southern District by the paid magistrate at All Pines, and the principal settlements which he visits.

56. Mr. Adolphus, at Corosal, reports a decrease of 50 in the number of summary convictions as compared with 1870, and from Orange Walk Mr. Downer returns an increase of 36. Mr. Hamilton, from All Pines, reports an increase also in the cases of petty larceny, but without giving the numbers.

57. Mr. Bowen, the keeper of the common gaol at Belize, retired on pension at the end of the year, and Captain Plumridge, late Inspector of the frontier police force, was appointed his successor.

Public Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, and Poor House.

58. These institutions are under the medical charge of Dr. Hunter, whose appointment from being annual has been made permanent by Ordinance 20 of 1871. Improvements were much needed in these establishments, and this law in some measure provides for them, as well as the appointment of a non-professional Inspector, which has been done.

59. The Hospital returns show that 93 cases were treated during the year, and that eight deaths occurred, or a mortality nearly equal to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Only one case was the result of fever, whereas there were three of the number from pneumonia.

60. It is much to be hoped that a new hospital, which has been for some time greatly needed, and the plans for which have been submitted to the Secretary of State, as well as the funds provided, will be built during 1872, by which increased accommodation and comfort will be secured to the patients. Medical comforts are allowed liberally when required, and as the public medical officer thinks necessary.

Lunatic Asylum.

61. The average number of patients during the year was 134, and there were two deaths.

62. The system adopted by Dr. Hunter is one of an entire absence from restraint, except when patients become violent, when they are locked up separately.

63. The buildings now used for these suffering people are those at Fort George, perhaps the healthiest spot in the whole of Belize. They are situate on an islet about 200 yards from the shore, and are thus conveniently separated from the town. A boat is attached to the establishment, which can reach the shore in five minutes. Some improvements have been made during the year in providing the patients with additional attendance and comforts, which were very much needed.

Poor House.

64. The inmates of this establishment are lodged in the building vacated by the lunatics when moved to Fort George. They are only those whose decaying strength has left them no longer able to follow up any pursuit which would secure them a livelihood. It is maintained at the cost of the General Revenue; the building is an old one, and when the funds of the Colony will admit of it, some consideration should be given to better lodgment and accommodation. There remained on the 31st December, 1871, 13 inmates, whose maintenance costs about 1*s.* 5*d.* a day each, with clothing.

65. Out-door relief is also extended to 38 persons, at an allowance of 2*s.* per week, the average age of whom is 75¼ years. The extraordinary age to which many of these people attain is very remarkable, there being amongst them, nine over 80 years, five over 90, and three over 100, the respective ages of the last being, two of 106, and one of 111 years.

Agriculture.

66. More land was opened and cultivated, and whereas in 1870 there were but 6,661 acres under crop, in 1871 there were 9,636, or an increase of 2,975 acres.

67. This is a sign of some increased effort being made to develop the land, which if continued must lead to large results. The cultivation of the sugar-cane has been steadily progressing, and there is little doubt but that it will be the great staple of this Colony, notwithstanding its many other valuable and important products. The production of sugar has increased in the five years, from 1867 to 1871, from 868 tons in the former to 2,320¾ tons in the latter year, or nearly five times as much, and at the present local price of 18*l.* per ton, equal to 41,773*l.* 10*s.*, and in the same period an increase of 12,134½ gallons rum at 1*s.* 6*d.* per gallon, equal to 910*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*

68. The following Table shows the gradual increase:—

Year.	Sugar.	Rum.
1867	868 tons.	53,714 galls.
1868	1,025 „	39,268 „
1869	1,031 „	45,996 „
1870	1,478½ „	49,442 „
1871	2,320¾ „	65,848½ „

69. But this increase has been still greater, taking the ten years from the first year of any export of sugar in 1862 to 1871, which in the former was but 177 tons 6 cwt. 0 qrs. 24 lbs., whereas in 1871 the Colony shipped 1,961 tons. 7 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs., or rather more than eleven times the quantity exported in 1862, and this year still more is expected.

70. Although the agriculture of the Colony may be said to be improving, I think that it is still but very imperfectly attended to, and a planter of experience from Demerara, who has come to settle in Honduras, told me, when visiting his estate in the northern district on

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the New River, that the land, if properly tilled, is capable of producing as much per acre as Demerara and at less cost, as the rivers drain the land and thus save the vast expense of both machinery for pumping, and the labour for keeping open trenches for drainage, absolutely necessary to keep the cultivated land above water in Demerara; but improved agriculture is wanted, and he had commenced cross-ploughing the lands. My informant had just come to the Colony in connection with the British Honduras Company, and is a practical agriculturist whose early training and knowledge of husbandry was acquired in Ayrshire. Moreover, this gentleman had lately managed estates in Demerara for some years, one of which alone made as much sugar in a single year as the entire crop of Honduras.

71. The cultivation of maize is successfully followed, and, except when there is a scarcity of rain, repays the producer. A little rice is also grown, and might be largely produced in the Southern and Western Districts if a little more effort was made. The production of vegetables in the Northern District, *i. e.* cabbages, tomatoes, radishes, parsley, lettuce, &c., would compare favourably with the produce of market gardeners in Kent or Surrey. Squatters, generally pensioners, along the banks of the rivers, also cultivate sufficient corn, rice, plantains, yams, &c., to supply their own wants, but seldom do more.

72. The manufacture of oil from the cocoanut is carried out on an extended scale, and supplies the entire local demand. The fibre is also cleverly worked up for mattresses, and is gradually taking the place of hair, and for the tropics answers just as well. Mats, brooms, brushes, &c., are also made from it.

73. No manufacture of oil from the cahoun nut has yet been made in the Colony, but quantities of the nut have been collected and exported to France, and the oil there expressed is said to be very fine and valuable.

Grants of Land.

74. The grants of land made during the year were but 10 in number, and in extent only amounted to 39 acres. They were made to squatters on the Sibun and Manatee rivers, and at the upset price of 10*s.* per acre.

Population, &c.

75. The census taken in December returns the population at 24,710, which shows a decrease of 925 in the 10 years from 1861.

76. The Northern and North-Western Districts show in 1871 only 10,552, against 13,547 in 1861; the Southern District returns 3,250 in 1871, and in 1861, 3,383. The loss of population must therefore be from the south, and in the exodus from the north caused by the frequent interruptions to settled life which have existed there within this period of 10 years.

77. The returns of baptisms, marriages, and burials with religious ceremony cannot be depended on, nor will any reliable returns be obtainable until an Ordinance is passed which will render registration compulsory.

78. Over one-third of the entire population are Protestants and less than two-thirds Roman Catholics.

79. Serious crime is happily at a low figure, being represented by a little over 1 in a 1,000 under convictions of the Supreme Court,

80. The number of depositors in the savings bank on the 31st December, 1871, was 103, and the amount deposited was $10,870·44.

81. There was no immigration during 1871, but many labourers left the Colony under contract for work in the neighbouring republic of Spanish Honduras and other places.

General Remarks.

82. The year 1871, which is the first under the new Consitution, will be remembered as one of the most prosperous and undisturbed that the Colony has known for many years. Its chief products of sugar, mahogany, and logwood increased the value of its exports by upwards of 35,000*l.*

83. Mr. Adolphus, in his annual Report on the Northern District, remarks:—"It affords me much pleasure to be able to record that "during the past year (unprecedented I fancy in this respect) perfect "quiet prevailed as regards Indian matters. On no occasion what-"ever did it become my duty to report any disturbance or territorial "violation by either of the Indian tribes on our border. I observed, "however, that the number who came to seek employment on the "sugar estates was much less than in the previous year, although "many more brought goods for sale and effected their own pur-"chases, which they had formerly entrusted to the traders, having "found out most probably that such a course was far more profitable "to themselves."

84. On recently visiting the Northern District I found a prosperous content amongst the inhabitants generally, which agreeably surprised me when I remembered what it was in 1868, when I accompanied Lieutenant-Governor Longden on a tour of inspection.

85. The planters certainly complain of a want of labour, and unfortunately with reason, but I was pleased to find one estate in the neighbourhood of Corosal worked entirely by Indians, while others had a fair proportion. If by a wise and careful management on the part of the employers of labour Indians hitherto hostile can be induced to come amongst us in large numbers as agricultural labourers, the great difficulty of the planting industry in the north will be removed, and in the future we shall happily hear less of Indian raids and the consequent disturbance of the development of the district.

86. The paid magistrate of the Southern District reports a partial failure in the crops of the small cultivators, especially in corn, rice, and also in plantains and yams, owing to the long-continued drought, but he proceeds to say, "that although the growth of the canes was "retarded, they soon recovered, and if everything continues as pro-"mising as at present, the yield of the coming crop will far exceed "that of the last, which was the best that was ever realized in this "district since estates were established." I am happy to add that I am informed the anticipations of Mr. Hamilton have been more than realized, and that a large crop will be taken off.

87. The general health of the Colony during the year has been

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very good, and I am not without hope, should time permit me, to introduce an Ordinance for the consideration of the Legislative Council to establish compulsory vaccination throughout the Colony, which is greatly needed, as also an Ordinance for the registration of births, marriages, and deaths, upon which at present no law exists.

88. An industrial exhibition was held at Belize at the close of the year in December. It was the first effort of the kind ever attempted in this Colony, and gave very general satisfaction. It was promoted by private subscription, and paid all its expenses, including prizes of bronze and silver medals, which were liberally awarded to successful competitors, besides the erection of a suitable building in which it was held, as well as leaving a considerable surplus towards defraying the cost of any future exhibition.

89. The postal communication viâ New Orleans, which was carried on during nine months of the year by schooners chartered for each round trip, was very irregular and caused great inconvenience to the mercantile community. This is now, however, happily at an end, by the arrangements which have been made by Her Majesty's Government for the conveyance of the British Honduras mails by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company viâ Jamaica, and thus again very wisely (as I respectfully think) brings this Colony into direct communication with Jamaica, with which it is connected politically as a dependency of that Government, as also with the Windward and Leeward Islands, viâ St. Thomas, from which in time perhaps some of the surplus labour of Barbados may find its way to Honduras.

90. I do not know that there remains any further subject to which it is necessary to draw your Excellency's attention in this Report.

I have, &c.,

Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B. (Signed) R. W. HARLEY,
Lieut.-Col. and Administrator.

[J. C. B.]

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No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor CAIRNS, to Governor Sir J. P. GRANT, K.C.B.

SIR, Government House, Belize, August 8th, 1872.

THE Blue Book for the year 1871 having been reported on, generally, by the Administrator previous to my return to the Colony, and the very important constitutional and other changes for which I was responsible having been effected within the first six months of the year while I was still present in Honduras, your Excellency will perhaps be glad to receive a particular Report upon the legislation of that period, a period from which, unless I greatly misconceive the tendency of events, a new departure, in the direction of prosperity and confidence, may be said to date.

2. The history of the change of constitution may be summarized as

follows: The Assembly had become weary of the possession of so much power, had come to see how frequently that power was wasted, and how apt it was to be misapplied. There was the landed interest, owning, or claiming to own, vast tracts of land, and conducting large operations in mahogany and logwood; and there, again, was the commercial interest, buying and selling on the spot, or with the neighbouring States, and broken up into contending interests of merchant versus publican, and stoorkeeper versus petty trader. Now all these interests had their so-called representatives, their political henchmen, in the House, and accordingly as this or that interest was numerically strongest in the Legislature at any given time, so surely did the contemporary legislation arrange and adjust ad hoc the burden of taxation.

3. Occasionally, at some nicely balanced juncture, or when some temporary understanding between the contending interests had been brought about, any legislation whatever was rendered impossible by a resort to the simplest of all expedients, namely, that of leaving a certain number of seats unoccupied from day to day, when, of course, no House could be made.

4. And there were other times, and of late they had been frequently recurring, when it seemed as though the public and general interest was regarded in the light of an unreal thing, that it was deemed to be wholly outside of, and different from the interest of the individual; that public policy was, in fact, a study or perhaps a distraction for the man of leisure, but that it had little practical relation to, at any rate that it could never be allowed to interfere with, the every-day concerns of A and B behind the counter, or of C and D upon the mahogany or logwood "work."

5. The state of things which I have attempted to describe had come, I know, to be generally felt, and confessed and deplored; although it is probable enough that the distribution of parts I have made would not be accepted by some of the actors who were directly concerned in the deadlock, politically speaking, which ensued.

6. At length in 1870, the decisive step was taken by the Assembly, through its elected members, not only of abrogating the then constitution, but, as it ultimately resolved to do, of substituting for that constitution the present form of Government, which, in all essential respects, is assimilated to the form prevailing in what are termed the Crown Colonies, and which consists of a Legislative Council of members nominated by the Crown.

7. Some purely legal difficulties impeded the immediate adoption of the change, but the system was finally constituted, so far as it depended upon local legislation, on the 13th of December, 1870, on which day the Act 33 Vic., sess. 3, was passed.

8. By section 5 of this Act, the Legislative Council was made to consist of the Chief Justice, the Colonial Secretary, the senior Officer commanding the troops, the Public Treasurer, the Attorney-General, and four unofficial members. These last members were to be nominated by the Crown, for the elective principle was locally in great discredit.

9. Section 9 prescribed that the Governor (or in his absence the Lieutenant-Governor) should be President of the Council.

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10. I believe that the former Legislature was well advised in taking the course it did, and that at least for some years to come, until there shall be a further development of the agriculture of the Colony, more material and moral progress made, and a larger settled population in the country districts with homogenous sympathies and feelings, any reversion to the principle of self-government would prove to be a backward step, politically considered, in the history of Honduras.

11. The earliest determination shown by the newly constituted Legislature, when it met in April of last year, was, after legalizing the appointment of its clerk and messenger, to provide the necessary taxation for relieving the Colony from its relatively heavy weight of debt.

12. This was done by the enactment of Ordinances No. 2 and No. 3, the former reimposing the Land and Property Tax, which had been permitted to expire at the end of 1869, but with certain modifications and reductions; and the latter raising the ad valorem duty upon imports not specially rated from four to ten per cent. (exclusive of a fixed two per cent. charge under existing laws), with, however, the allowance of a drawback upon such articles as might be exported in unbroken packages within a given time. The duration of the land and property tax was not expressly limited, but that of the Ordinance imposing the additional duty upon imports was made to correspond with the remainder of the period for which the Act 32 and 33 Vic., chapter 10, had been passed, namely, the three years terminating on the 31st July, 1872.

13. The effect of those two measures has been that the revenue was speedily placed in a condition to pay $26,350 into the sinking fund of the Immigration Loan, and also to provide for the contribution of 5,000*l.* per annum towards the military debt and the current expenditure on military account, and in full for the customary expenditure on account of the public service of the Colony from year to year.

14. It will, however, be necessary to continue for a space the same rate of taxation, if the Colonial debt is to be extinguished at the proper time; and it is my very decided opinion that for a country in the condition of British Honduras, the first essential is that the financial situation should be wholly unembarrassed.

15. British Honduras has every natural constituent of wealth; before it, sooner or later, there lies, no doubt, a prosperous career; but it is important, as I think, to the success of its first, which is the difficult period of development, in the direction of agricultural thrift, that it should engage in no undertaking on account of which it would be necessary to entangle the Colony in further liabilities of the nature of loans—so easily raised, and so full of specious promise, but none the less so apt to prove an enduring hindrance in the way of progress.

16. Ordinance 5, of 1871, was a very important enactment, inasmuch as that it gave effect to the decision at which the Colonial Government had arrived, that the maintenance in the Colony of two companies of troops was essential to its preservation from what I may go the length of calling the ruinous alarms of Indian raids.

It is but fair that for the protection thus afforded, which, if recent

indications may be trusted, is fully sufficient as against the restless border tribes, the Colonists should submit themselves to be charged at a reasonable rate.

17. In the schedule to the next Ordinance, No. 6, of 1871, will be found what is at least the partial justification of the decision to which I have referred. In the presence of only one company of soldiers within the Colony, and those concentrated as a rule in Belize, at a distance of from 90 to 120 miles from the more vulnerable out-lying parts, "Frontier Disturbances" were of constant occurrence, with of course the inevitable bill of costs to follow, as your Excellency will find it here. Then again, the necessity had arisen, through the want of military outposts, for the formation, if by any means it could be formed, of a quasi-military frontier force of armed police. As soon, however, as the Legislature was prepared to vote a supply for the maintenance of a second company of troops, such a force was seen to be comparatively useless, and the men of whom it consisted were disbanded without loss of time. What I have stated, on occasion, in my Despatches may be repeated in this place, namely, that the materials do not exist in Honduras for organizing a body of armed police, who should be capable of producing the same deterrent effect upon the trans-Hondo Indians as we can see for ourselves is produced by small garrisons of soldiers. A few mounted men, to serve as scouts, might be useful in time of war, but to render the very thought of war unattractive to our savage neighbours, there is nothing like a company of regulars posted en permanence at Orange Walk and Corosal, and divided between those stations.

18. Ordinance No. 7, for taking the decennial general census, I only notice to point out that there is no discouragement to be drawn from the fact that the population would appear to have rather fallen off than increased during the last ten years. If the figures are correct for the earlier period, 1861 (I believe them to be approximately correct for the year last past), they only show that there did not then exist the same attractions in the neighbouring republics, in the shape of railway construction schemes, to carry away large numbers of the adult population of both sexes. Natural causes, I am persuaded, are not concerned in the seeming absence of a natural augmentation. Epidemics have been few, slight, and local, and the climate of British Honduras is admittedly well suited for the coloured races. The falling off, therefore, is not permanent or real, being traceable to an external but merely temporary influence, producing a fancy wages-rate, with which the local employers of labour are unable to compete.

19. The Supply Ordinance, No. 8, covered several new items of expenditure, of which may be mentioned provision for the purchase of a printing press, and for printers' wages. By the arrangement by which the Government has thenceforward become its own printer, the conditions of comparative economy, efficiency, and secrecy have been fully satisfied.

20. There was also a vote inserted for granting a douceur to the Speaker of the late House of Assembly, upon the recommendation of that body at one of its last sittings, and payment was secured of the cost of maintenance of the second company of troops as mentioned in an earlier part of this Report.

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21. Provision for the cost of taking the census was of course necessary, and besides these unusual charges, the immigration loan debt and the old military debt had to find a place among the items requiring an appropriation.

22. When the estimated expenditure had been brought thus far, it was found impracticable to admit any new claims, however important and urgent they might be. The catalogue is somewhat formidable of such improvements as must remain in abeyance until the Colony is out of debt; but I may mention, as among the unsatisfied heads of service those of immigration, compulsory vaccination, registration of marriages, births, and deaths, road extension, and reconstruction of the public buildings, for which no money was forthcoming in the estimate of 1871, and which are more than likely to be shut out of future estimates so long as the balance of debt remains unpaid.

23. The same motive, the insufficiency of the ordinary revenue to meet its most pressing engagements, which suggested the enactment of Ordinances 2 and 3, suggested also the arrangements for prospectively reducing salaries, and combining the duties of certain offices, to which validity was given by Ordinance No. 10.

The effect of this measure will of course be gradual, but when it is in full operation the yearly saving on account of salaries will stand at $9,200, or 1,840*l.*, while the additional work to be thrown upon certain officers will in no single instance exact from them more than they can properly perform.

24. My review of the legislation in which I had a part ends with Ordinance No. 15, for, although two other laws were passed previous to my departure from the Colony on leave of absence, they were not of an important character.

25. Ordinance No. 15 was framed with the object of disestablishing and disendowing the Anglican and Presbyterian Churches, while conserving the interests of the present office bearers. Had it been possible to provide for the proportionate endowment, concurrently, of the Churches of the other communions, from the limited revenue of the Colony, the question might well have been considered whether such would not have been the preferable course to pursue, in view of the very narrow means of the great majority of the Creole population of whatever creed; but as this was evidently hopeless, the justice and perfect fairness of the measure of disendowment recommended themselves to every dispassionate thinker, and there was really no sufficient pretext for deferring legislative action.

26. The Ordinance, as regards appointments to vacancies on the Churches' establishments, was to begin to take effect on the first day of 1873, whenceforward all new appointments must be made by the Anglican Church body itself, and solely at its cost. From the same date, any successor to the present Presbyterian clergyman would have to be paid from other sources than the public purse.

27. Pensions were provided under the Ordinance for all the present officers of the Anglican Church and for the Minister of the Presbyterian Church (the Government has never had any concern in the appointment of the subordinate Presbyterian Church officers) whenever they saw fit to retire.

28. To assist the former Communion in establishing the new order

of things, the Lieutenant-Governor might appoint Commissioners to collect and manage the funds for the future support of the Church; but after the first appointments had thus been made, any subsequent vacancies must be filled by the initiative of the remaining commissioners themselves.

29. These first commissioners were empowered to *at once* proceed to levy pew rents, and to prescribe, collect, and manage the fees to be charged for marriages, baptisms, funerals, and other Church services, ceremonies, or rites, and for the privilege of erecting memorial tablets within the churches.

30. Power was given to the bishop, clergy, and laity, to meet in synod, and in such synod to make regulations for the general good government of the affairs of the Church; and it was further laid down what persons should be deemed to be eligible as members of the first synod.

31. On the 1st of January, 1873, all jurisdiction exercisable by ecclesiastical law was to cease within the Colony.

32. Whenever the Lieutenant-Governor was satisfied that a Church representative body had been constituted by the bishop, clergy, and laity, he might incorporate such body by charter, and upon such representative body being duly recognized by the Lieutenant-Governor, the powers of the commissioners were to cease, and the office of commissioner to be abolished.

33. Certain advantages besides those already named were given by subsequent sections of this important law to the representative Church body; they might alienate, for instance, one of the two Belize churches in order to raise the requisite funds, although they must not dispose of both the churches, or of the parsonage of Saint John's.

34. Should divine worship, according to the Anglican rites, cease to be regularly performed in Belize, the then remaining Church property was to revert to the Crown.

35. From its unusual importance, it was necessary that I should reserve this measure for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure thereon; and, some alterations having been thought desirable, in regard to the provisions of the 10th and 13th sections, which it was suggested should be conformed as closely as possible to the similar sections of the Jamaica law, the Ordinance was repealed, and another enactment, giving effect to the wishes of the Secretary of State, was brought forward in the present session, and, after a very careful reconsideration of the details of the earlier measure, has been duly passed and assented to as Ordinance No. 25, of 1872.

36. The general result is, that any future State connection with the Churches of this Colony is severed absolutely and finally, from the 1st day of January next.

I have, &c.,

Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B. (Signed) W. W. CAIRNS.

[W. R.]

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No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor CAIRNS to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Government House, Belize, October 14, 1872.

IN response to your Lordship's application to be furnished with a copy of Dr. Hunter's Report on the climate of British Honduras, I have the honour to supply it by the present mail packet.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, (Signed) W. W. CAIRNS.
&c. &c. &c.

SANITARY REPORT on the COLONY of BRITISH HONDURAS.

Belize, June 15, 1872.

In furnishing a short Sanitary Report on the Colony of British Honduras it will be unnecessary to give a minute topographical description of the various towns and villages situated on the sea coast and the agricultural and wood-cutting districts of the interior of the country; and as a meteorological summary has already been supplied it will only be necessary to touch lightly on this subject, in order to show how far the changes of climate influence the salubrity of the Colony.

The coast to the north of Belize is very litle elevated above the sea, and in the vicinity of the town it may be said to be almost on a level with it, but towards the southern boundary it becomes somewhat higher and bolder in appearance, and at a distance of ten or fifteen miles from the sea, during which the ground gradually rises, a range of mountains—the "Coxcombs," which are about 4,000 feet above the level of the sea—commences. The country around Belize is swampy, and covered with dense mangrove bush; but as these swamps communicate freely with the sea, and as they are constantly being filled and emptied by the flow and ebb of the tide, the malarious emanations, which under other circumstances would be sure to follow, are prevented by the mechanical, and perhaps chemical, changes which these collections of water undergo. This circumstance, combined with the frequency and strength of the sea breezes, forms the principal reason for that remarkable immunity from miasmatic diseases which the population enjoy, and which is all the more extraordinary when it is considered that all the essentials for the evolution of these noxious emanations exist, viz. heat, moisture, and decaying animal and vegetable matter. The towns of Corozal in the northern, and Stanncreek in the southern, district are the residences of persons employed in agricultural and wood-cutting pursuits. The country in their vicinity is much higher and almost free from swamp. All the towns

are pleasing in appearance; the streets are wide, clean, and formed of porous sand, which becomes very soon dry even after the heaviest rains; and in Belize, where very great improvements in widening the streets and making canals have recently been effected, the healthiness of the place has been greatly enhanced. The houses of all classes of the community are built on raised foundations, which greatly conduces to the comfort and health of the inmates.

The agricultural settlements of the Colony are principally situated on the banks of the rivers, at considerable distances from the sea coast. The banks are high, well-wooded, and generally healthy, great care being taken by the settlers and owners of estates in the selection of the site of the buildings and labourers' houses. During the prevalence of the sea breezes these banks, being high, receive the uninterrupted currents of winds, and are cooler than the towns on the coast, and when the land and north winds prevail they are entirely free from the humidity which they absorb in traversing the swamps near the coast.

The characteristic features of the climate of British Honduras during the greater portion of the year are a most equable temperature, with strong easterly breezes in the summer months or dry season; an absence of rain for three or four months from the end of January; and in the winter months cold northerly winds, which are generally dry and bracing, and land winds, fortunately not continuous, which usually bring a great deal of moisture from the neighbouring collections of water, and much rain. Exposed to the full influence of the trade winds the whole coast may be considered as unexceptionally healthy during their continuance, while the temperature does not vary more than six or eight degrees during the twenty-four hours. The atmosphere is dry, indeed it would be difficult to point out any place in the West Indies in which the humidity is so inconsiderable. The dew which falls at night is almost imperceptible, and it is only where the country is high and in close proximity to hills that the dews may be considered noticeable. During the rainy season, the commencement of which is variable, there are sometimes short periods of calm, in which, although the temperature is not appreciably heightened, the feeling of heat is great, but fortunately these calms are of rare occurrence and of short duration. The rainfall is variable, but from observations extending over a period of ten years, the general average for a year is found to be between forty and fifty inches.

Health of the Population.

The Europeans form but a small part of the population of British Honduras, and sickness of every kind prevails to a much smaller extent among them than in the black population. The only diseases affecting them are intermittent and remittent fevers and liver affections, and these are generally of the mildest description. The climate is such that a healthy European will undergo as much fatigue and exposure without being affected by it as he would in his own country, and where ordinary care is taken a moderately good constitution may resist the effects of climate for a long period of years without experiencing even the smallest degree of sickness. The mortality among

BRITISH HONDURAS.

them is small, and apart from special causes, they can show a degree of healthiness equalling if not surpassing that of their own country. Some years ago, while troops were regularly stationed here, and although the sanitary arrangements for soldiers in those days were very different to what they now are, they enjoyed good health, and perhaps they never were stationed anywhere in any of the colonies, more particularly in the West Indies, where the sickness and mortality among them was so little. In the beginning of 1867, when the troublesome raids of the Indians on our frontier took place, the detachment of white artillery which accompanied the expedition against them underwent equally with the black troops the fatigues of long marches through dense bush and virgin forests, with probably less discomfort, and certainly with much less sickness afterwards, than was complained of by the black soldiers.

The diseases which affect the coloured population are similar to some of those affecting the blacks of other colonies in the West Indies, but there is an absence of many of the most serious, as typhus and typhoid fevers, small-pox, scrofula, and leprosy; and in order to show the degree in which other affections exist, a few words may be said on each of them.

Intermittent Fever.—This is certainly the most frequent affection among the black people, but so mild is its character that very little attention is paid to it beyond the taking of a purgative followed by quinine, remedies which are often altogether ignored. The ague, which is in other countries a most distressing stage of the affection, mostly amounts to only a slight rigour of very short duration, the other stages are equally in degree. Considering the conditions by which the people are surrounded, especially near the sea coast, where all the requisites for the emanation of miasma exist, it is remarkable that there is such an immunity from this and other malarious affections which are understood to be the effect of exposure to the influence of these poisons, and the only explanations I can arrive at are:—1st, the swamps are undergoing constant change, both mechanically and chemically; 2nd, the sea breeze is frequent and strong; and 3rd, the general healthiness and good physique of the people render them capable of resisting the effects of the poison, which most frequently tells on the ill-conditioned and ill-fed.

Remittent Fever.—The causes of this affection are similar to those of the foregoing, but in many cases the baneful habit of rum-drinking is the predisposer of any serious attack. It is very amenable to treatment, and its duration is generally short if not too long neglected at the outset.

Small-pox.—Within the memory of the oldest inhabitant in the Colony, this fell disease has only prevailed once, viz. in the year 1856, when it was characterized by considerable virulence, very likely in consequence of the neglect of vaccination.

Typhus and Typhoid Fevers are not known, and acute diseases, such as pneumonia and hepatitis, seldom assume the typhoid condition.

Pneumonia.—Occasional cases of this disease occur among the old and weak who thoughtlessly expose themselves during the cold winter months.

Phthisis does not seem to originate to any great degree in the

Colony, but very frequently cases of this disease are sent to our public hospital from some of the neighbouring states. Some instances of this affection seem to derive the greatest benefit from a stay in the Colony; all the more violent symptoms subside, strength is regained, and a life that in other countries would have been of short duration has been prolonged and a good old age arrived at. As I write this I can recall to my recollection three cases at least where a residence here resulted in the greatest benefit. In other cases again the course of this complaint is very rapid.

Continued and Low Fevers.—I cannot recall to my recollection having treated any of these affections, either in the public hospital or in private practice, for a number of years, and certainly it is but rarely they are met.

Rheumatism.—This painful affection is frequent, but more often is it of the kind following gonorrhœa than that produced by the effects of climate. But as it is well known that a moist climate such as we have at certain seasons of the year is prejudicial to this affection, I would not recommend anyone who is the subject of it to remove from a dry atmosphere to Belize.

Scrofula and Rickets.—The offspring of the natives proper are wonderfully free from these affections, and the absence of deformed and misshapen children is remarkable. I know of no better criterion of the sanitary condition of a population to judge by than this. These affections are essentially the result of unhealthy stock, bad feeding, and general neglect of hygiene, and where they are absent the salubrity of the country may be depended on.

Leprosy.—There are perhaps four or five cases of this disease in the whole Colony, none of which are natives, and the necessity for making special arrangements for their treatment has never arisen. The cases are not bad, the disease being generally confined to a limb or some defined part of the body, and is slow in progress. In one case that I remember amputation of the affected leg at the thigh completely eradicated the disease.

Dysentery and Diarrhœa are occasional and sporadic, no epidemic having taken place in my recollection. They usually assume a bilious type, and are readily amenable to treatment.

Epidemics are very unfrequent, and are not of that terribly sweeping nature which characterizes epidemics in the West Indies generally.

In 1836 and 1854 Cholera visited the Colony, and on the latter occasion was severe. In the end of 1867 and in the beginning of 1868 it again visited us, but it was not so severe, and only carried off those who either were poor and ill-fed or those who were victims to spirit-drinking. There were frequent cases of cure recorded by the medical men who were in Belize at the time. Among the black troops there were only two deaths, one of which I am convinced owed his death to exposure in the bush while labouring under the premonitory diarrhœa.

In the years 1860 and 1869 there were a few cases of yellow fever, confined principally to the white population. The medical officer in charge of the troops in 1860, remarking on the epidemic, says, "It "was exceptional, it being the only time that an epidemic of this

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"disease has visited the place. It does not appear to have affected "the soldiers, no case having been recorded among the white, and only "one, which, however, proved fatal, among the black troops."

The mortality in the public institutions and the military hospital will bear comparison with similar institutions in any part of the world, and I may give the following extract from a Report on the Colonial Hospital in 1865 in support of this statement:—

"Of the total number of cases treated, 254, the number of deaths has been small. . . . There were 17 deaths, thus constituting a death rate a little over 6 per cent. For the sake of comparison I will give the mortality statistics of London, Paris, and a few of the colonial hospitals.

Hospital.	Year.	Per cent. of Deaths.
London - - -	—	8 to 10
Paris - - - -	—	11 to 12
Kingston, Jamaica - -	1861–2	16 to 18
Trinidad - - -	1861	16
Demarara - - -	1861	17

"No deaths occurred in the gaol hospital during the year 1867. Number of cases, treated, 78."

The troops are recruited from the West Indian Islands and the coast of Africa, Jamaica and Barbados contributing the greatest number. In no case is a native of Honduras enlisted. They enjoy capital health, the number of admissions to hospital being small and the mortality among them very little.

The paucity of labour in the Colony has always acted very beneficially (in one sense) for the working man. The wages being high and provisions cheap, render it unnecessary for him to work for more than three or four days in the week. When employed in wood-cutting and on plantations they are generally worked hard, but the greatest care is taken that they be kept in good health and in a fit condition to do hard work. The scene of wood-cutting operations is generally healthy, the rivers affording good water and the banks are generally high and healthy. The situation of estates is generally selected with a view to health, and as a rule good houses are built for the labourers and hands working on sugar estates. The average sick list of a sugar estate is from two to four per cent., the mortality very little.

In conclusion I may say that my own experience in ten years has led me to think that for the black man no better country exists, and that as a temporary residence for a European it equals any, and surpasses many, of the West Indian Colonies.

A. HUNTER, Public Medical Officer.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from President CAMPBELL to Governor Sir J. P. GRANT, K.C.B.

Government House, Grand Turk,
August 13, 1872.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1871, together with my Report thereon.

I have, &c.,

Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) MELFORT CAMPBELL,
President.

REPORT.

The receipts of General Revenue for the year 1871 were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Imports	3,523	14	8
Exports—Salt	2,673	9	4
Ditto—Dye Woods	4	7	10
Light Dues	629	1	8
Miscellaneous	929	0	2
Showing a total of	£7,760	3	8

For the year 1870:—

	£	s.	d.
Imports	3,874	17	3
Exports—Salt	1,705	9	4
Ditto—Dye Woods	2	2	3
Light Dues	429	0	8
Miscellaneous	1,101	3	3
Making a total of	£7,112	12	9

To this amount must be added 2,000*l.* borrowed on debentures, and 391*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* received from the Crown chest in aid of the general revenue, thereby increasing the receipts for 1870 to 9,504*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*

General Expenditure.

The general expenditure for 1871 was 9,236*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue of 1,476*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* for that year.

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Crown Revenue.

This fund or revenue is derived from sale and rents of Crown lands, and a ten per cent. duty paid by the salt-pond proprietors on the value of salt exported from the Colony, in lieu of rent for their ponds. The sum thus yearly collected is permitted by the Crown to be devoted to works of public utility in the Colony. Under the old leasehold system, the amount paid by the pond proprietors averaged annually 3,469*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*; under the present system, the royalty paid averages annually 2,545*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, but during the year 1871 it amounted only to 1,951*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* The number of pond proprietors is 138. The sum total of Crown revenue collected from all sources during 1871 was 1,989*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*

Import Duty.

Taking the last 22 years, ending December, 1870, the annual duty averaged 4,113*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*, whilst for 1871 it was only 3,523*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.*, or about 600*l.* below the average.

Value of Imports.

Taking the before-mentioned period, the average annual value of imported goods has been 39,978*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*, whilst for 1871 the value was only 25,285*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* The following Table exhibits the yearly value of imports for the last ten years:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1862	35,956	7	11
1863	45,183	3	10
1864	70,199	0	3
1865	80,549	17	8
1866	56,090	13	5
1867	52,121	11	7
1868	40,778	0	9
1869	34,873	1	6
1870	35,345	9	4
1871	25,285	1	9

Value of Exports and Salt Statistics.

The following Table shows the export of our staple since the formation of this Government up to the end of 1870, and also that the export duty may be calculated as averaging about 7 per cent. per annum on the declared value of the salt here. It will be noticed, moreover, that the quantity of salt exported in 1870 was only 846,066 bushels, valued at 12,128*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, against 1,265,850 bushels in 1871, valued at 18,667*l.* 9*s.*; and though the quantity for that latter year is about the average, yet the value was considerably below it, thus proving how adverse to the interests of the salt-pond proprietors the years 1870 and 1871 have been.

A RETURN SHOWING the QUANTITY of SALT EXPORTED from the TURKS and CAICOS ISLANDS since the Separation of these Islands from the Bahama Government to the close of the Year 1870—a period of Twenty-two Years; showing also the Declared Value thereof, and Price per Bushel, as well as the Amount and Rate of Export Duty paid thereon during these years.

Years.	Quantity of Salt Exported.	Declared Value.	Average Prices per Bushel.	Amount of Export Duty Paid.	Rate of Duty per Bushel.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
1849	1,407,722	34,245 2 11	5¾	1780 3 4	*a*
1850	1,169,402	26,757 18 7	5¼	2436 6 9	½
1851	786,442	17,245 10 0	5¼	1638 7 7	½
1852	1,061,776	22,035 4 1	4¾	2212 0 8	½
1853	827,808	24,132 19 0	6¾	862 6 0	¼
1854	1,021,900	51,375 16 3	1 0	1064 9 7	¼
1855	391,584	22,964 10 8	1 2	407 18 0	¼
1856	674,940	22,890 0 6	8	703 1 3	¼
1857	1,269,304	25,440 9 7	4¾	1322 3 10	¼
1858	1,823,324	30,375 17 10	4	1899 5 11	¼
1859	1,914,524	29,251 6 4	3	1994 5 11	¼
1860	1,638,672	27,725 8 4	4	1706 19 0	¼
1861	1,360,028	21,712 13 11	3	1416 13 11	¼
1862	1,982,596	28,131 12 2	3¼	2065 4 1	¼
1863	1,434,230	21,573 5 6	3⅓	2624 4 7	*b*
1864	1,252,186	29,726 0 1	5½	2608 14 5	½
1865	1,251,344	26,841 0 11	5	2606 19 4	½
1866	1,930,988	37,193 3 1	4½	4022 17 10	½
1867	1,094,528	24,947 14 5	5¼	2280 5 4	½
1868	1,398,029	27,133 13 7	4½	2912 11 5	½
1869	1,311.344	26,063 1 0	4¾	1365 19 8	¼
1870	846,066	12,128 4 2	3¼	1705 9 4	*b*
Total.	27,848,717	589,890 12 11	120	41,613 7 9	
Average.	1,265,850	26,813 4 3	5*d*.	1892 11 3	

a 5 per cent. on the value fixed by Salt-pond Commissioners monthly.
b Part of the year at ¼*d*., and part of the year at ½*d*. per bushel.

Legislation.

The following are the titles of the Ordinances passed by the Council in 1871, which have received the Royal assent.

Ordinance No. 1 of 1871. To provide for the appropriation of divers sums of money to be paid from the Colonial Treasury for and towards defraying the contingent expenses of the Presidency of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1872.

Ordinance No. 2 of 1871. To continue in force certain Acts of the Bahama Legislature now in force within this Presidency, and which are about to expire, and to repeal part of Ordinance 10 of 1861.

Ordinance No. 3 of 1871. To amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1861 with reference to the fees to be paid by British ships of war for pilotage within the waters and harbour of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Ordinance No. 4 of 1871. To vest in the Supreme Court jurisdiction in and over cases of idiotcy and lunacy.

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Ordinance No. 5 of 1871. To define the duties of Admeasurer of Shipping, and to establish a mode of admeasurement of British ships.

Ordinance No. 6 of 1871. To authorize the President of the Turks and Caicos Islands to grant lands for religious purposes.

Ordinance No. 7 1871. To authorize the Commissioners of the Poor's House and Hospital, under certain circumstances, to take possession and to dispose of the real and personal property of any person who may receive relief in such establishment.

Ordance No. 8 of 1871. To incorporate a company, called "The Turks Islands Commercial Association, Limited."

Consuls.

The only change to record in the Consular Department at these Islands is the appointment of Mr. George W. Driggs as United States Consul, *vice* Mr. Stewart, who has been removed to Leipsig.

Political Franchise.

The franchise was formerly vested in all the taxpayers who were twenty years of age, and who could read and write English. In the year 1864 a property or occupancy qualification was added. The number of registered electors is 292. The number of voters at the last election was 207; the population, by the census taken in 1871, being 4,723.

Debt.

The debt of the Colony remains at precisely the sum stated in my last Report, viz. 2,700*l.*; the interest paid thereon being at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum.

Pensions.

The amount paid for pensions in 1871 was 545*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*, a heavy item of expense for so small a Colony as this is.

Education.

The number of schools in the Colony is 9. The number of scholars is 408, and the cost to the Colony for education is 700*l.* per annum. The attendance of the pupils at the schools is far from satisfactory, nor does education seem to be appreciated as one would wish. I cannot report any improvement in these respects during 1871.

Crime.

The amount of crime in the Colony is small, neither are the offences committed by any means serious. The chief offences are assaults and abusive language. The total number of offences tried by the magistrates was 197; and the number tried in the Supreme Court was 6, viz. 1 for assault, 3 for larceny, 1 for libel, and 1 for secreting wrecked property.

Poor's House and Infirmary.

The expenses of these institutions to the Colony was 516*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* for the year 1871, during which time 44 persons received relief, at an average daily cost of 1*s.* 5¾*d.*; in addition to which, out-door relief has been also afforded to five persons, at an average cost each of about 3*d.* per diem. There has been no sickness in the Colony during 1871 worthy of any remark.

General Remarks.

My Report as to the general state of the Colony for the year 1871 varies but little from my former Reports. The import duty on our staple by the United States' Government during 1871 has continued detrimental to all interests alike. Many of the merchants who freighted salt on their own account to the United States in the year 1871 have lost heavily thereby. And though this protective duty above alluded to has now been considerably diminished, it will be some time before the merchants can recover their losses incurred during the last six years. It is most desirable, when practicable, that the heavy duty on our imports be reduced, as the cost of the mere necessaries of life is enormously high. I have every reason to believe that when the import duty on salt in the United States is entirely abolished, which event seems probable, and the contemplated changes in this Government are effected, the future prosperity of this Colony is certain.

MELFORD CAMPBELL,
President.

NOTE.—In order to relieve these Islands from pecuniary embarrassment, it is intended largely to reduce their civil establishment and to place them in more immediate dependence on Jamaica.

[J. C. B.]

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor SCOTT to the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Georgetown,
October 16, 1872.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the past year, 1871.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. SCOTT, Governor.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Revenue and Expenditure.

In my Report on the Blue Book of 1870 I was enabled to refer to a considerable increase in the revenue compared with the amount collected in any former year, although no change had been made in

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the imposts from which the revenue of the Colony is derived; and it is gratifying that, in respect to the past year, I can again report a further improvement.

The revenue of the past year was 379,647*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*, which, compared with that of the previous year, 1870, shows an increase of 25,516*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.* But the gradual improvement in the revenue of the Colony will be more clearly shown by the following Table:—

Revenue in	£	Increase. £
1867	275,209	—
1868	290,881	15,672
1869	311,377	20,496
1870	354,131	42,754
1871	379,647	25,516

These figures give an average revenue during five years of 322,249*l.*, so that the revenue of 1871 was 57,398*l.* in excess of the average revenue; or, otherwise stated, there has been a mean annual increase during the last four years of 26,109*l.*

The following Table gives the receipts under each Head of Revenue compared with those of 1870:—

Heads of Revenue.	1870. £	s.	d.	1871. £	s.	d.	Difference. £	s.	d.	
Imports, wine and spirit duties	218,641	19	4	225,760	16	6	7,118	17	2	increase.
Beacon and tonnage dues	5,626	15	10	5,972	18	11½	346	3	1½	,,
Rum duties	12,191	15	5	14,719	13	9	2,527	18	4	,,
Retail spirit licences	73,049	12	2	81,929	3	4	8,879	11	2	,,
Other licences	11,182	19	7½	11,815	3	2½	632	3	7	,,
Fees of office	7,326	17	7½	8,067	15	3½	740	17	8	,,
Taxes	2,542	18	4½	3,243	14	6½	700	16	2	,,
Fines and seizures	5,187	18	7	5,482	5	0½	294	6	5½	,,
Interest	3,078	18	1½	5,533	12	0	2,454	13	10½	,,
Miscellaneous	1,831	8	10	2,538	10	9½	707	1	11½	,,
Amounts recoverable	958	10	2½	170	14	2	787	16	0½	decrease.
Establishments under Government	9,473	3	5½	11,288	16	10½	1,815	13	5	increase.
Superannuation abatements	3,038	0	11	3,124	0	2	85	19	3	,,
Total	354,130	18	6	379,647	4	7½	25,516	6	1½	increase.

It will be seen that there was an increased amount obtained under each branch of revenue, with the exception of the item of Amounts Recoverable, and this is an item of accounts rather than of revenue. The principal sources of increase will be found under the head of Imports, Wine and Spirit Duties, and of Retail Spirit Licences; the former exhibiting an increase of 7,118*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*, and the latter an increase of 8,879*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*

The expenditure of 1871 was 338,053*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, being 41,594*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* less than the year's revenue, but exceeding the expenditure of the previous year, 1870, by 12,197*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* The year's expenditure may be, for purposes of comparison, classed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
1. Civil Establishments - - -	38,109	1	4
2. Judicial, including Police and Prisons	91,931	3	6
3. Hospitals, including Poor, Orphan, Lunatic, and Leper Asylums - -	46,473	11	7
4. Ecclesiastical - - - - -	20,200	3	11½
5. Education - - - - - -	15,640	19	9½
6. Pensions and Gratuities - - -	5,211	5	5½
7. Immigration - - - - -	28,465	19	10
8. Public Works - - - - -	30,904	19	0
9. Interest and Sinking Funds - - -	29,575	7	6½
10. General and Miscellaneous Services -	31,540	11	4½
Total - - -	£338,053	3	4

To meet this expenditure there was a balance in the Treasury on the 1st of January, exclusive of special fee funds and deposits, of 29,724*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, which, added to the year's revenue of 379,647*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*, gives a sum of 409,371*l.* 13*s.*; consequently there remained in the Treasury to the credit of the Government at the close of the past year the sum of 71,318*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* available for the service of the current year, 1872.

Public Debt.

The public debt, arising from loans borrowed under various Ordinances, is given in the tabular statement inserted in the Blue Book at 512,864*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*, being 69,558*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* less than the aggregate amount at the close of the previous year, 1870; but in order to understand the financial position of the Government as regards this debt, a few explanations are required.

The following are the only loans for which the revenues of the Colony have to provide for the annual interest and ultimate discharge of the principal:—

		£
1.	Ordninance No. 8 of 1850 - -	130,000
2.	„ 4 of 1853 - - -	2,500
3.	„ 10 of 1854 / 3 of 1859 - -	5,833
4.	„ 10 of 1863 - - -	30,800
5.	„ 25 of 1864 - -	10,400
6.	„ 9 of 1869 - - -	27,800
	Total - - - -	£207,333

The first of these items is the balance of an original loan of 250,000*l.*, borrowed under the guarantee of the Imperial Government, the liquidation of which involves an annual payment out of the revenues of the Colony of a sum of 14,000*l.* On the 1st of January of next year the balance will be further reduced by a sum of 80,000*l.*, that amount being already invested in consols, and the whole of the debt will, under present arrangements, be discharged on the 1st of January, 1875.

With reference to the loans numbered 2 and 3, the moneys already invested as a sinking fund are sufficient to meet the payment of the bonds when due; and, as regards the items 4 and 5, invest-

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ments have been made, amounting to 10,212*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; and during the current year a portion of the surplus revenue has also been invested, sufficient to provide for the payment of these loans. These four loans, amounting in the aggregate to 49,533*l.*, have, therefore, ceased to be any burden upon the revenue, although they will continue to be enumerated in the statement of the public debt until the bonds are discharged.

The last item was borrowed under an Ordinance passed in 1869, authorizing a loan of $500,000, or 104,166*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, for public works of a permanent character; but as the present revenues of the Colony are sufficient to meet the annual demands of the public service, it has not been necessary to increase this loan beyond the sum of 27,800*l.*, borrowed during the first year of the Ordinance coming into operation, The annual interest and the sinking fund investments involve a yearly payment of 2,502*l.* out of the revenue.

The largest item of the public debt consists of a sum of 205,300*l.* borrowed under Ordinance 24 of 1864, on account of immigration. This loan is under the management of commissioners, and is the basis of the Immigration Fund, and all proceedings connected with it are separate from the monetary transactions of the general Government. The public revenues are pledged for the payment of interest and principal, but no direct burden falls upon the revenue in connection with this special loan.

The remaining items of the public debt are composed of sums borrowed under various Ordinances, amounting in the aggregate to 100,231*l.*, for the service of public bodies. The Government is, in like manner as with the immigration loan, pledged for the payment of interest and the liquidation of the capital to the lenders, but the general revenue is free from any direct charges.

From this explanation it will be observed that although the public debt is stated to amount to the sum of 512,864*l.*, the revenues of the Colony are at this time only charged with the annual disbursements of 14,000*l.* and 2,502*l.* on account of this debt, and that three years hence the payment of the larger sum will cease, and there will only remain an annnal payment of the smaller sum of 2,502*l.*

Commerce.

Imports.—The value of the total imports for 1871 amounted to 1,897,183*l.*, and the following summary exhibits the chief sources from which they were received:—

	£
From the United Kingdom - - -	1,025,181
„ British Possessions - - -	340,817
„ United States - - - -	429,144
„ Other Foreign Countries - -	102,042

Compared with the previous year, 1870, the imports from Great Britain show an increased value of 27,651*l.*, and from the United States an increase of 58,162*l.* On the other hand, there is a decrease in the value of the imports from British Possessions of 69,848*l.*, and from foreign countries other than the United States, a decrease of 15,880*l.*

Exports.—The total value of the exports amounted to 2,748,720*l.* British Guiana being essentially a sugar-producing Colony, any

annual variation in the value of the exports must be looked for in connection with this staple and the other two products of the sugar-cane, rum and molasses. This will be evident when I state that the entire value of all other exports, including articles imported and re-exported, amounted in 1871 to 181,017*l.* only, being about one-fifteenth of the value of the year's exports.

The quantity of sugar exported consisted of 104,310 hogsheads, being the largest crop that the Colony has ever produced, and showing an increase of 9,365 hogsheads over the shipments of the previous year. This increase may be partly due to the extension now being made in the cultivation of the cane; but it is, no doubt, in a great measure to be attributed to the unusually favourable season of 1871.

The rum exported consisted of 29,703 puncheons, as against 27,169 puncheons shipped in 1870.

In molasses there was a falling off in the quantity exported of 3,092 puncheons, the quantity shipped being only 14,514 puncheons, as against 17,606 puncheons exported in the previous year.

The value of these staple exports was:—

	£
Sugar	2,190,510
Rum	311,880
Molasses	65,313
Total value	£2,567,703

They were distributed as follows:—

SUGAR.

	£
United Kingdom	945,651
British Possessions	77,301
United States	1,158,528
Other Foreign States	9,030
Total	£2,190,510

RUM.

	£
United Kingdom	282,385
British Possessions	20,974
United States	483
Other Foreign States	8,038
Total	£311,880

MOLASSES.

	£
United Kingdom	4,666
British Possessions	22,315
United States	32,980
Other Foreign States	5,351
Total	£65,312

Compared with the exports of the previous year, 1870, there was a decrease in the value of these three staple products to the United

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Kingdom of 104,343*l.*; to the United States an increase of 469,773*l.*; to British Possessions an increase of 1,955*l.*; and to foreign countries, other than the United States, of 348*l.*

It may not be uninteresting to draw a comparison between the whole of the colonial imports and exports of the year.

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom was 1,025,181*l.*; the exports thereto are valued at 1,266,426*l.*, showing in value an excess of exports over imports of 241,245*l.*

From the United States the imports amounted to 429,144*l.*; the exports thereto reached the high figure of 1,204,024*l.*, thus exhibiting an excess of exports over imports of the value of 774,880*l.*

The imports from British Possessions were estimated at 340,817*l.*; the exports shipped to these markets at 196,518*l.*; the imports in this case being greater by a sum of 144,299*l.*

From foreign countries, excluding the United States, the imports were also in excess of the exports from the Colony by a sum of 20,289*l.*, the imports being 102,042*l.*, and the corresponding exports, 81,753*l.*

Drawing a more general comparison, it will be found that the value of the entire imports was 1,897,184*l.*, and the exports 2,748,720*l.*; the latter exceeding the former by the large sum of 851,536*l.*

Shipping.

The return of the number of vessels engaged in the commerce of the Colony does not differ materially from that of 1870. The total number of ships entered was 1,002, representing a tonnage of 230,975; the number cleared from the port was 998, being equal to a tonnage of 210,453.

Immigration.

In a Colony like British Guiana, where its exports depend almost wholly upon the successful and economical cultivation of the sugar-cane, and to carry on which imported labour is an absolute necessity, the subject of this division of the Blue Book has an important bearing upon the commerce of the Colony. In my former Report on the year 1870 I adverted to the extension taking place in cane cultivation, and this still continues; and, as a consequence, the yearly demand for immigrants by the planters also increases. Applications were made for the past season for 8,235 East Indians, 1,390 Chinese, and 275 Africans; or a total of 9,900. The number actually introduced in satisfaction of this large demand consisted of only 2,937 statute adult East Indians. The introduction of liberated slaves from Africa, which at one time supplied a limited number of excellent labourers, may now be considered as definitively closed. Chinese immigration has also for several years been suspended, and as the Chinese Government have refused to admit of any modification of the late Convention on terms which would admit the reopening of that source of imported labour, it is to be sincerely hoped that the negotiations now in progress, by which it is sought to obtain Chinese immigrants on the same terms as those under which these people are permitted to emigrate to the Spanish possessions, may be

successful: for it can scarcely be expected that there can be obtained annually from India alone an immigration equal to the demands made for imported labour by the various Colonies. On the general question of Coolie immigration, it would be out of place in a concise Report on the yearly statistics of the Colony to offer any remarks. I will only observe that its opponents have allowed their minds to be biassed by the few drawbacks which are almost necessarily connected with a system of indentured labour on a large scale, and have not sufficiently considered the broader features of the question. Anyone who from personal knowledge can compare the social position of the Indian Coolie in his own country with that which he occupies in British Guiana becomes fully aware of the real and substantial benefits immigration confers on this class of people; and I may add that no one is more sensible of this than the Coolie himself.

From the census taken on the 3rd of April last year, it appears that there were resident in the Colony, including children, 48,363 East Indian, and 6,880 Chinese immigrants, making a total of 55,243. Of these there were working on the sugar plantations 33,940 East Indians under indenture for five years, and 8,823 as free labourers; and of Chinese 4,496 under indenture, and 1,352 as free labourers; the remainder were living in the towns and villages.

The average rate of mortality amongst the immigrants residing on the plantations during the past year was found to be 3·65 per centum. This compares unfavourably with the death rates of the two previous years, that for 1869 having been 2·11 per cent., and for 1870, 3·06 per cent. In explanation of this increased rate of mortality, I may observe that it is not confined to immigrants alone; from the returns made to the Registrar-General it appears that the death rate of the entire population of the Colony reached in 1871 the unusually high rate of 3·78 per centum.

During the year the following immigrants voluntarily entered upon fresh indentures:—East Indians entitled to return passages to India, 2,170; not entitled to back passages, not having completed their industrial residence of ten years, 2,145; making a total of 4,315. Of the Chinese, 843 indentured. The bounties paid to these immigrants amounted to 53,505*l.*

The number of immigrants obtained from India during the season was unusually small, and consisted of the following:—2,119 males, 722 females, 122 boys, 70 girls, and 128 male and female infants, at an average cost of 18*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* per caput. In addition to these, there came to the Colony 260 Portuguese and 591 Barbadians, whose passages were paid by the Government; but they are voluntary immigrants, and under no engagements, and free to follow their own pursuits and dispose of their labour as they please.

On the other hand, there were sent back to India in September 423 Indian immigrants. These immigrants deposited for remittance to India a sum of 10,507*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*, besides taking with them small sums, and having jewellery and personal ornaments of large value. The Immigration Agent General, in his Report on the departure of this vessel, states that they "were a very fine body of people, and "show a very great and favourable contrast, by their independent

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"bearing and greater intelligence, to that which their fellow-coun-
"trymen exhibit on their introduction, and which they no doubt
"exhibited, for the most part, on their own introduction."

Savings Banks.

It is satisfactory to observe that under this head there is shown an improvement each successive year, both as regards the number of depositors and the amount deposited. Every possible facility is now afforded to the humbler classes to take advantage of these banks by their being open each day, and by accepting deposits as low as 2*s.*, and as a further encouragement the interest on deposits has recently been raised from 3 to 4 per cent. Improvidence, however, is one of the strongest characteristics of the Creole race, and it would be a vain hope to expect any great or sudden change amongst them in this respect.

The following Table exhibits the number of depositors and the amounts deposited by each class of the population during the years 1869, 1870, and 1871:—

Depositors.	1869.		1870.		1871.	
	No. of Depositors.	Amount Deposited.	No. of Depositors.	Amount Deposited.	No. of Depositors.	Amount Deposited.
		£		£		£
Indian Immigrants -	1,622	26,700	2,057	40,928	2,501	47,055
Chinese „ - -	46	1,090	42	1,219	50	1,401
Portuguese „ - -	332	9,726	193	8,077	215	10,213
Creoles and others - -	1,774	25,790	2,500	33,230	3,040	42,327
Totals - - -	3,774	63,306	4,792	83,454	5,806	100,996

Legislation.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year; but they do not call for any special observations:—

No. 1. An Ordinance for taking the Census of British Guiana.

No. 2. An Ordinance to levy a tax on all lots and buildings in the town of New Amsterdam for the service of the year 1871.

No. 3. An Ordinance further to amend Ordinance No. 10 of the year 1868, intituled "An Ordinance for the Registration of Births "and Deaths in this Colony."

No. 4. An Ordinance declaratory of the authority of two Judges to sit separately at the same time at any Inferior Court of Civil Justice.

No. 5. An Ordinance to incorporate a Company to be called "The Demerara Steam Baking Company, Limited."

No. 6. An Ordinance to provide for the levying of certain ad valorem duties during the existence of a Civil List Establishment in this Colony.

No. 7. Colonial taxes.

No. 8. An Ordinance to increase during the financial year 1871–72 the indenture fee payable by employers of immigrants to whom bounty is paid.

No. 9. An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 25 of the year 1868 (Retail of Spirits).

No. 10. An Ordinance to amend No. 13 of the year 1861 (Patents).

No. 11. An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance intituled "An "Ordinance to incorporate a Company to be called 'The George-"'town (British Guiana) Gas Company, Limited.'"

No. 12. An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 14 of the year 1861, intituled "An Ordinance to make better provision for the "care and superintendence of the Rivers, Creeks, Crown Lands, "and Forests of the Colony."

No. 13. An Ordinance to enable His Excellency the Governor to change, and to add to the number of the places for holding Sessions of the Inferior Courts of Criminal Justice, and to increase or diminish the number of Sessions of such Courts; and to facilitate postponements of the Sessions of the Inferior Courts of Civil Justice.

No. 14. An Ordinance to alter the style and title of the Puisne Judges of British Guiana.

No. 15. An Ordinance to make provision against risk to life and property in Georgetown and New Amsterdam, and their respective neighbourhoods, from the manufacture and possession of explosive substances.

No. 16. An Ordinance to provide for the carrying into effect in this Colony of the Naturalization Acts, 1870.

No. 17. An Ordinance to extend the time of payment by the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown of a portion of the money borrowed by them from the Colony under the provisions of "The "Cumingsburg North-west District Improvement Ordinance, 1866," and to authorize the issue of fresh bonds to meet the payment of bonds heretofore issued by the Colony under the said Ordinance as and when they shall become due.

No. 18. An Ordinance to make certain alterations in the law relating to jurors in criminal cases.

Pensions and Gratuities.

Pensions.—The sum disbursed on account of pensions amounted to 4,399*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*, against 5,604*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* in the previous year, 1870. Three pensions of the respective value of 595*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*, 129*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, and 850*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, in the aggregate amounting to the sum of 1,584*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*, lapsed by the death of the holders. On the other hand, another pension of 196*l.* was added to the list.

Gratuities.—Gratuities were made to the widows of twelve officers who died during the year, amounting in the aggregate to 1,829*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*, and a gratuity to a clerk in the Post-Office, on retiring, of 41*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

Public Works and Buildings.

A sum of 29,975*l.* was voted in the year's estimates for the construction and repair of the public works and buildings.

Amongst the most costly works in progress is the sea wall and dam for the protection of the town from inundation by the sea, and on which a yearly sum of 6,250*l.* is expended. The chief new works

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commenced during the year, and in course of construction, and their estimated cost were :—Fence around the Georgetown Gaol, 1,667*l.*; maternity and foul ward to the Georgetown Hospital, 729*l.*; additional wing for male patients, and enlargement of female ward, and erection of a recreation shed at the Lunatic Asylum, Berbice, 1,427*l.*; new county Gaol at Suddie, 6,042*l.*; conversion of Fredericksburg station, Leguan Island into a district prison for the confinement of indentured immigrants under sentence for breaches of the labour laws, 834*l.*; magazine for explosive oils, 875*l.*; and erection of an iron railing fence around the public buildings, Georgetown, 1,688*l.*

The following sums have been expended in repairs, additions, or alterations :—Hospitals and charitable institutions, 550*l.*; bonded warehouse, 363*l.*; police stations, 3,291*l.*; various public buildings, 1,696*l.*; bridges, 866*l.*; wharves, 561*l.*; public roads, 377*l.*; and incidentals, 626*l.*

Education.

The statistics in regard to the established schools assisted by Government grants do not differ largely from those of the previous year.

The amount voted by the Legislature for the support of education, exclusive of the salary and travelling expenses of the Government Inspector of Schools, was 17,263*l.*, which was appropriated as follows : —To established schools, namely, Bishop's College, Queen's Grammar School, Roman Catholic Orphan School, and Catholic Grammar School, a sum of 1,346*l.* For the training of twelve pupils for school teachers, a sum of 583*l.*; and for grants in aid of the erection and repair of schools, and supply of school-books, &c., a sum of 2,417*l.*, thus leaving 12,917*l.* to be distributed by the Board of Education in aid of the general schools established throughout the Colony under the charge of the various religious bodies.

The number of these schools assisted by grants was 155, of which 56 are Church of England, 29 Church of Scotland, 5 Roman Catholic, 24 Wesleyan, and 26 London Missionary and Congregational. In addition to these there are 4 Infant Schools and 7 Missionary Schools for Indians, receiving grants in aid.

The number of pupils on the school registers, exclusive of Mission Schools, was 15,553, and the average daily attendance 8,999.

The recent census has enabled a rough comparison to be drawn between the number of children attending schools and the number in the Colony; the school age being assumed to be from 4 to 13 years inclusive.

Census.

Children under 5 years 22,531, of which $\frac{1}{5}$th are considered to be above 3 years of age	4,506
Between 5 and 10 years	11,494
Over 10 and under 15 years, of which $\frac{2}{5}$ths are considered to be under 13 years of age	9,853
Total	25,853
Children on school registers	15,553
Difference	10,300

On this subject the Inspector of Schools remarks, that making due allowance for public and private schools which do not come under his inspection, together with the Indian Missions, the aggregate attendance at which can hardly exceed 1,500, there is a residuum of 8,800 children who are under no instruction whatever. I may observe, however, that this estimate of children not attending schools includes a large number of Coolie children living with their parents on the sugar estates, for whom some provision is made by schools established on several of the plantations, and none of whom attend the ordinary schools; this would materially reduce the number. The Inspector also remarks on this subject, that it is true that the school returns give a total of 21,372 children as present at some time or other, but of these 7,457 have not been in school as many as 50 days. I quote the further remarks of the Inspector of Schools on this question :—"It appears, " therefore, that there are at least several thousand children who are " virtually growing up in a state of ignorance. The question then is, " how are these to be got to attend school? A compulsory system " will doubtless suggest itself as the readiest mode of bringing about " so desirable an object. To this there is no longer the same objec- " tion as in former years, for the principle has been recognized in the " mother-country.

"But in introducing a compulsory system into this Colony, great " difficulties would be encountered in consequence of the variety of " races, and because a large proportion of children are really under " no parental control. I cannot help thinking, however, that the " problem may be partially solved by other means, and that the " gentler principle of *moral suasion* has not yet reached its " maximum.

"Great success has undoubtedly attended the efforts of those " patrons who have generally devoted themselves with such earnest- " ness to the cause of education, and I take this opportunity of " expressing my conviction that it is mainly, if not entirely, owing to " the exertions of the ministers of the several religious bodies that " our people possess educational advantages, which are now placed " almost everywhere within their reach. Still I believe that if the " whole body of patrons could see their way to devoting more of their " time to their schools, visiting them more frequently, and taking " a more active part in the daily routine work, secular as well as " religious, there would be a marked increase in the number of " children, not to mention greater regularity of attendance, and " a higher moral tone."

Hospitals and Asylums.

Hospital, Georgetown.—At the commencement of the year there were 371 patients under treatment, and 4,017 were admitted during the year. Of these 3,427 were discharged, viz. 2,123 cured, 1,155 relieved, and 149 not improved. There were 565 deaths, and 396 remained in the hospital at the close of the year. The daily average number in the hospital did not exceed 366.

Seaman's Hospital, Georgetown.—The number of patients at the beginning of the year was 25, aad 776 were admitted during the

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year; of these 776 were discharged, of whom 640 were cured, 113 partially cured, and 7 not relieved; 10 died, leaving 31 under treatment at the close of the year.

Hospital, New Amsterdam.—In this hospital there were 106 patients at the commencement of the year, and 984 were admitted during the year. There were discharged 858, of whom 599 were cured, and 259 partially cured; the deaths were 139. At the close of the year 137 patients remained under treatment.

Lunatic Asylum.—There were on the 1st January, 1871, in the asylum 133 patients, to which were added 45 patients during the year; 19 were discharged cured, and 22 died, leaving 137 in the asylum at the close of the year.

Besides the above charitable institutions wholly supported by the Government, there are asylums for lepers at Mahaica, and at Kaow Island, in which are maintained an average of about 250 patients, an almshouse, which numbers about 325 inmates, and an orphanage for Coolie and other children. There were 147 inmates in this institution at the close of the past year.

Criminal Statistics.

It appears from the Blue Book returns that the total number of convictions in 1871 were as follows:—

For offences against the person	3,076
For prædial larceny	193
For offences against property	1,074
For other offences	7,833
Total	12,176

Of this number 5 suffered capital punishment, 25 were whipped, 148 bound over to keep the peace, and 6,455 were punished by fine; thus leaving 5,543 for punishment by various terms of imprisonment. Of the total number convicted, 4,316 were for offences against the Masters' and Servants' Acts, including immigrants for breaches of the labour laws, and, as I have on a former occasion remarked, as these offences do not involve any moral turpitude, it is necessary to take these classes of offences into consideration in drawing any conclusion on the criminal statistics of the Colony.

On comparing the above figures with the prison returns, there appears to be a discrepancy. From the prison returns the total number of commitments are stated to be 5,439, of which 2 were for debt, and 380 for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, leaving 5,057 for purposes of penal punishment. Of this latter number 49 were sentenced for five years or more, and were sent to the penal settlement; 85 for one year or more, but less than five years; 103 for more than three months, but less than one year; and 4,820 for three months or less. It further appears that amongst the commitments 510 prisoners had been convicted once before, 193 twice before, and 146 thrice or oftener; but here again it is necessary to remark that a large portion of these consist of Coolies committed for renewed offences in connection with their indentures.

The prisons consist of the Penal Settlement, the Georgetown Gaol, the New Amsterdam Gaol, the Capoey Gaol, and the district prisons of Fellowship and Mahaica. The total cost of these institutions in 1871, including the salaries of the officers, amounted to a sum of 15,502*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*

Population, Mortality, &c.

The population of British Guiana, exclusive of Her Majesty's troops and of sailors, was ascertained by the census taken on the 3rd of April, 1871, to be 193,491, showing an increase of 45,465 during the last ten years.

The number of males is stated to be 108,791, and of females 84,700, giving the large excess of 24,091 males. This disproportion in the sexes is chiefly attributable to the excess of males over females in the Asiatic immigrants. The census does not distinguish the sexes of the different races composing the entire population, but from the return of the Immigration Agent General it appears that the Asiatic immigrants on the estates at the close of the year consisted of 35,898 males, and only 13,753 females, giving an excess of 22,145 males.

Of the population of 193,491, there were resident in the towns of Georgetown and New Amsterdam 41,999; on the plantations, 67,859, and 83,633 in the villages and scattered settlements.

The following abstract shows the birthplaces of the population:—

Born in British Guiana (including children of immigrants from India and elsewhere)	-	113,570
„ West India Islands	-	13,385
„ India	-	42,681
„ China	-	6,295
„ Madeira and Cape de Verde Islands	-	7,925
„ Africa	-	7,541
„ Europe	-	1,444
„ Other places	-	650

The native or Creole population of the Colony numbered 93,861 at the census of 1861; during the decade it has increased to 113,570, but this number includes 4,104 children born of Portuguese parents, and 6,267 children born of Asiatic immigrants, besides an unknown number of children born of immigrants from Barbados and other places, who have settled in the Colony during the decennial period. The increase in the Creole population cannot, therefore, be estimated above 9,000, or less than 10 per cent. in the ten years.

The number of persons who died during the past year, 1871, was 7,324, or 3·78 of the entire population, as against 2·9 per cent. in 1870. Of these deaths, 2,680 were children under ten years of age, being 36·59 per cent. of the entire mortality, or 1·38 per cent. of the whole population.

The Registrar-General in his Report observes, that it is to be feared that a great portion of the mortality, and especially amongst the Creole children, is caused by insufficient and innutritious food, unwholesome lodging, insufficient clothing, bad water, and want of timely medical aid. With reference to a better supply of water, I fear no remedy can be applied in a Colony in which, with the exception

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of rain-water obtained by its storage in tanks, the supply is drawn from the savannahs, but it is hoped that the proposed scheme of dividing the entire Colony into medical districts will at least place medical aid within the reach of all the inhabitants. The other causes adverted to by the Registrar-General are, I regret to say, to be attributed almost wholly to the indifference and improvidence of the Creole race; faults which time alone can eradicate. Of the number of deaths during the past year, it is stated 3,946 had medical treatment during their last illness, while 3,378 died without medical treatment.

The number of births registered for the year was 3,660 boys, and 3,522 girls, giving a total of 7,182, being only 142 less than the deaths. This does not include still-borns, which numbered 503, or a little over 7 per cent. of the living births. The number of children born in wedlock was 2,150; out of wedlock, 5,032. This latter number, however, includes a large portion of the children born of the Indian immigrants who associate together "after the fashion of their "country"; but as the entire number of children born of such parents was 1,137, it would, even deducting the whole of these births, leave 3,895 Creole children born out of wedlock, showing too glaringly another of the evil traits which still cling to this class of the population.

On the whole a review of the statistics of British Guiana for the past year cannot, I consider, be regarded as unsatisfactory. Although the mortality compared with the previous year is large, the Colony has been free from any epidemic, and no case of yellow fever has occurred. The temperature has not in any month been unusually high, the highest having been 81·42° in September, and the lowest 78·26° in February, the mean temperature of the year being 79·40°. The year's rainfall is registered at 109·730 inches; the largest rainfall occurred in January, when 21·367 inches fell; and the lowest in October, which did not exceed 1·213 inch. The mean monthly rainfall was 9·144 inches.

Among the events of the year I may mention as not uninteresting, the landing of the telegraph cable connecting British Guiana with the West India Islands, the United States, and Europe. The cable was laid by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company. A yearly subsidy of 3,000*l.*, to continue for ten years, was guaranteed to the Company by the Government by an Ordinance passed in 1869.

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No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the ADMINISTRATOR to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Government House, Nassau, May 4, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of the Bahamas for the year 1871, and my Report thereon, together with a letter from the Acting Colonial Secretary in explanation of the delay which has taken place in its transmission.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GEO. C. STRAHAN,
Administrator.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Taxes and Duties, &c.

No change has taken place in the taxes and duties since the year 1869, with the exception of an export duty imposed in 1870 of 1½ per cent. on the value of goods upon which no duties other than warehouse duty, auction tax or auction duty, have been paid.

An Act of 1869, which imposed an additional duty of 25 per cent. on the total amount of duties collected, and which would have expired with the present session of the Legislature, has by an Act lately passed been continued in force until the 1st February, 1873.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure for the last four years has been as follows:—

Date.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1868	40,777	68,306
1869	35,360	40,376
1870	47,530	48,598
1871	41,826	40,662

showing at the end of the year 1871 a surplus revenue of 1,164*l*.

The decrease of revenue in 1871, as compared with that in 1870, is accounted for by the change from six months to one month in the credit allowed in the payment of import duties, which had the effect of bringing into the revenue of 1870 what, under the law as it stood prior to 1869, would have appeared in the revenue of 1871.

The expenditure in 1870, as compared with 1871, arose from the

salaries and other liabilities for 1869, which at the end of that year were several months in arrear of payment, appearing as the expenditure of 1870.

Post Office.

Since the month of November last, mail communication has been carried on under a contract entered into with the Atlantic Mail Steam Ship Company, by which there is fortnightly steam communication between New York, Nassau, and Havana, from November to May, and monthly communication during the remaining months.

The Post Office revenue in 1871, was 1,220*l.*, being a decrease of 501*l.* as compared with 1870.

This arises from a decrease in the number of money-orders issued during 1871, in consequence of certain restrictions which were placed upon the officer in charge of the Control Department as to the amount of specie to be kept in the treasury chest, and the inability of that officer, whose receipt to the postmaster is the only practicable mode of remitting from this Colony moneys paid for post office orders, to receive more than a limited amount under this head.

Pensions.

In the pension list there is a decrease of 630*l.*, caused chiefly by the death of four retired public officers.

Debt.

The return under this head shows a debt in debentures of 54,161*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*, being the same as in 1869.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports and exports for the last four years has been :—

Date.	Imports.	Exports.	
		Native Produce.	Other Exports.
	£	£	£
1868	231,526	80,146	51,376
1869	240,584	77,999	85,003
1870	283,970	60,231	130,022
1871	239,190	82,677	69,733

The decrease of "imports" and "other exports" in 1871, as compared with those of 1870, is due to the valuable cargoes of sugar, cotton, &c. ; of vessels wrecked in these waters, or putting into this port in distress, during the year 1870.

The increase of native produce for 1871 arose from a more extensive cultivation and exportation of fruit.

Wrecks.

The returns under this head are as follows:—

Date.	Total Wrecks.	Other Casualties.	Total.
1868	17	30	47
1869	26	19	45
1870	20	19	39
1871	15	24	39

Monetary.

The receipts and payments of the Nassau Public Bank have been as follows:—

Date.	Receipts.	Payments.
	£	£
1868	541,301	561,563
1869	420,786	410,734
1870	514,381	507,242
1871	470,476	480,080

The specie in the Bank, on 31st December, 1871, and on the same day of 1869 and 1870, was:—

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	£	£	£
English gold coin - -	1,473	2,320	5,251
American „ - - -	3,390	6,942	3,323
Spanish „ - -	7,453	5,237	1,560
Silver - - - - -	15,672	22,270	16,971
Totals - -	27,988	36,769	27,105

Civil Establishment.

Since 1869 there have been no important changes in the Civil establishment of the Colony, as affecting its expenditure.

Since the departure from the Colony of the late Governor in April, 1871, the Government has been administered by the Colonial Secretary.

Councils and Assembly.

During 1871 no change of any importance took place in the constitution of these bodies.

There are at present two vacancies in the Legislative Council, caused by the death of one member and the resignation of another.

There is also a vacancy in the Executive Council.

Legislation.

The Acts passed during 1871 were:—

34 *Vict., Cap.* 1.—An Act for taking the Census of the Bahama Islands.

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Cap. 2.—An Act to extend the operation of Act 25 Vict., cap. 8.

Cap. 3.—An Act to amend the Act 23 Vict., cap. 3, to promote General Vaccination.

Cap. 4.—An Act to authorize the payment of a certain annual sum of money as salary to the Honourable Horatio Nelson Chipman, while performing the duties of physician to the New Providence Asylum, and otherwise as therein mentioned.

Cap. 5.—An Act to amend the Bankruptcy, 1870.

Cap. 6.—An Act for the regulation of Quarantine.

Cap. 7.—An Act to consolidate and amend the laws for the prevention of abuses by the use of false or insufficient weights and measures.

Cap. 8.—An Act to amend the law relating to the property of married women.

Cap. 9.—An Act to declare the law and practice in cases of Escheat.

Cap. 10.—An Act to declare the law relative to the jurisdiction of the General Court on its Equity side in cases of Lunacy, and for other purposes.

Cap. 11.—An Act to explain and amend the Act 33 Vict., cap. 19, for the further amendment of the Law of Evidence.

Cap. 12.—To continue in force the 12 Vict., cap. 14, entitled An Act to provide for more frequent communication between certain Islands of the Bahamas and the seat of Government.

Cap. 13.—An Act to continue the Act for affording protection to the owners of cattle depasturing, or which may hereafter be depastured on certain Crown Lands at the Island of Inagua, known as the "Prairies."

Cap. 14.—An Act to continue two Acts of Assembly, regulating the hire of carts, waggons, drays, or other like vehicles plying for hire in the Island of New Providence.

Cap. 15.—An Act for providing for the more performance of the duties of Harbour Master for the port of Nassau.

Cap. 16.—An Act for the appropriation of divers sums of money for and towards defraying the expenses of the Government of the Bahama Islands.

Cap. 17.—An Act to amend the mode of procedure on trial by Jury.

Cap. 18.—An Act to provide for the appointment of Commissioners of Public Works for the Out-island Districts of the Colony, and the execution of public works in such districts.

Cap. 19.—An Act to amend the "Cattle Act, 1859," and for other purposes.

Cap. 20.—An Act to amend the Acts relating to the conveyance of mails.

The Acts relating to vaccination, to bankruptcy, to the property of married women, and to procedure on trial by jury, are simply adaptations to the circumstances of the Colony of Imperial Statutes on the same subjects.

The Act relating to the conveyance of mails enabled the Government to enter into a contract for five years from 30th November last with the Atlantic Mail Steamship Company of New York for the

conveyance of mails between New York, Nassau, and Hanover, for a subsidy of 6,000*l.* per annum.

Educational.

In 1869 the Educational Grant was fixed by the Legislature at 2,200*l.* per annum.

The average attendance during 1871 was 2,156, as compared with 2,137 in 1869. The number of schools remains the same, viz. 38.

The Inspector of Schools reports "that the number nominally in "attendance at the schools under the Board of Education is 3,251. "To this number may be added about 1,400 who attend schools "under the direction of the Church of England, making a total of "4,651, or about 11·6 per cent. of the population."

I regret to state that the grant for educational purposes is altogether inadequate to the demands of the widely-scattered settlements of this Colony, and the Board of Education constantly feel themselves hampered in their operations in consequence of want of funds.

Public Works.

No public works of any importance have been undertaken for several years. The repair of roads and streets and such like is all that, in the financial state of the Colony, could be attempted.

Population and Health.

The census taken on the 2nd April, 1871, shows a population of 39,162, being an increase in the decennial period since 1861 of 3,875.

The births and deaths in the last four years were as follows:—

Dates.	Births.	Deaths.
1868	1,469	718
1869	1,469	706
1870	1,483	775
1871	1,433	805

Under the head of health I am convinced, as I stated to the Legislature in opening the present session, that "an improved and "more extended system of drainage, with an efficient staff to enforce "sanitary regulations, would add materially to the health of this "city and its suburbs during the summer months." . . . .

I earnestly trust that when the state of the finances will admit of the expenditure, an improvement may be made in this respect.

Crime and Pauperism.

The number of prisoners tried in the Superior Court during the last three years is as follows:—

	1869.	1870.	1871.
Convicted - -	20	33	38
Acquitted - - -	13	24	21

On the cases tried during the past year as connected with the state of crime, the Attorney-General reports "that with four exceptions "the cases were all of ordinary character."

"The larcenies were of small amounts, and when housebreaking was charged as committed with the larceny, the buildings were invariably small cottages insufficiently secured, which were entered in the absence of the owners, generally labouring people at their day's work, and the offences were unaccompanied with acts of greater violence than the removal of a padlock, or some such inadequate security; while the offences against the person were, with three exceptions, found to be mere cases of common assaults." . . . . I consider that the criminal facts of the year 1871 show a diminution of crime in this Colony." . . . .

The number of cases tried before the police magistrate in 1871 was 1,212. The number of convictions during the last three years was as follows:—

1869.	1870.	1871.
714	881	833

The amount expended on the maintenance of the poor during 1871 was somewhat in excess of that of 1870, the figures being

	1870.	1871.
	£	£
In New Providence - -	1,638	1,975
In the Out-islands - -	375	311
Totals - - -	2,013	2,286

Ecclesiastical.

The returns sent in by the several denominations in the Colony are as follows:—

Denominations.	Number.
Wesleyan - - - - -	7,370
Baptists - - - - -	6,610
Church of England - - -	3,388
Presbyterian - - - - -	300

Military.

The garrison at present consists of 7 regimental and 4 departmental officers, and 154 non-commissioned officers and men belonging to the 1st West India Regiment.

In consequence of the state of affairs in Cuba, a vessel of war has been constantly on this station since the beginning of 1869.

General.

There has been of late years a gradual improvement in the financial condition of the Colony so far as regards an equalization of

revenue and expenditure, but the general condition cannot be looked upon as satisfactory, for (to quote from my speech in opening the Legislature) "in effecting this equalization of revenue and expendi- "ture, important appropriations have been curtailed, and services of "public utility dispensed with, in order to meet the bare exigencies "of the public establishments."

There has lately, however, been manifested a desire on the part of the people, both here and in the Out-islands of the Colony, to extend the cultivation of the soil, and there are already signs of an increasing trade, and I trust that in a few years improvement and progress may yet have a place in the Bahamas.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GEORGE C. STRAHAN,
Administrator.

(No. 118.)

SIR, Colonial Secretary's Office, Nassau, May 3, 1872.

I have the honour herewith to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1871, and regret that in consequence of the delay in the transmission of the revenue returns from the distant Out-islands, arising from the want of regular mail communication with the seat of Government, it has been impossible to complete it at an earlier date.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN D. A. DUMARESQ,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Honour Captain G. C. Strahan, R.A.,
Administrator.

[J. C. B.]

TRINIDAD.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor LONGDEN, C.M.G., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Trinidad, April 26, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith the Blue Book of Trinidad for the year 1871.

Finance.

2. The enclosed Tables show that the financial position of the Colony at the present time is extremely statisfactory. The revenue is more than equal to the expenditure, and the liquidation of the public debt is steadily progressing. The guaranteed loan and public

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buildings loan, which are chargeable exclusively upon the general revenue, will be paid off in two years. The interest and sinking funds of the remaining debts are covered by rent-charges.

3. The general taxation of the Colony was unaltered in 1871, but the export duty on sugar and cacao, specially appropriated to immigration purposes, was raised from 3*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* per hogshead on sugar, and from 7½*d.* to 1*s.* 6¾*d.* per 100 lbs. on cacao.

4. The total amount of revenue collected in 1871 was 272,094*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* This includes a sum of 7,741*l.* 6*s.* received from commissioners of tramroads, &c., and afterwards paid out again on account of the interest and sinking fund of tramroad debentures. Deducting this sum as a mere matter of account, the net revenue received applicable to the general service of the Colony, including immigration, was 264,352*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* This compares very favourably with the revenue of the preceding five years, which, excluding the same items of account, stood as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Net revenue of 1866 - - -	202,513	14	7
„ „ 1867 - - - -	200,908	12	5
„ „ 1868 - - -	197,138	5	5
„ „ 1869 - - - -	236,240	8	7
„ „ 1870 - - -	225,733	12	11
„ „ 1871 - - - -	264,352	19	5

5. The increase in different items of the revenue collected in 1871 over that of 1870 amounted in the aggregate to 48,778*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*; in other items there was a decrease amounting in the whole to 10,269*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*, so that the net increase in the revenue of 1871 over that of 1870 was 38,508*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*

6. The principal item of this large increase was the export duty levied for immigration purposes, which, in consequence partly of the great increase in the duty, and partly of the very large crop of sugar, rose from 9,877*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* in 1870 to 32,694*l.* 5*s.* in 1871, being an increase of 22,816*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* The next large increase took place in the Customs duties, which show a total excess of 18,457*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* over the sum collected in 1870. The excise on rum showed an increase of 2,665*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, and the wharfage duties of 2,445*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* Licences show an increase of 1,562*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*, and interest was increased by 1,199*l.* 1*s.* There was a small increase on some other items. On the other hand there was a very large decrease in the sum received for income tax, which in 1870 gave a revenue of 11,974*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*, and in 1871 only 6,926*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*, showing a difference of no less than 5,047*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, nearly the whole of which appears from the returns laid before the Council to have occurred in the assessments made, under schedule D of the Ordinance, upon "plantations, professions, trades, and employments." There was a decrease of 2,080*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* in the sums arising from the sale of land, and of 1,562*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.* in "miscellaneous" receipts. The other items of decrease are of small amount.

7. The total expenditure amounted to 242,121*l.* 17*s.* 2½*d.*, of which 7,946*l.* was matter of account, being the sum received and paid on account of tramroad debentures; deducting this, the actual expnediture of the Colony was 234,175*l.* 17*s.* 2½*d.*, which exceeds

the expenditure of the preceding year by 2,405*l.* 12*s.* 9½*d.*, an excess which was mainly caused by the purchase last year of the steam dredger and the cost of taking the census.

8. The cost of the Government, including the salaries of public officers, and the contingent cost of the civil establishment, together with maintenance of hospitals and asylums, police and gaols, mail and telegraph services, and miscellaneous charges, amounted in the whole to 131,453*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*; the immigration charges amounted (exclusive of the establishment) to 47,021*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*; public improvements, bridges, and works, to 41,336*l.* 1*s.*; the amount of the interest and sinking fund of public debts paid directly from the Colonial Treasury was 13,201*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*; and the expense of taking the decennial census was 1,163*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*; making a total expenditure of 234,175*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.* These figures do not vary materially from those of last year. It will be seen from this that more than two-fifths of the whole expenditure is incurred for public improvements and immigration.

9. The local revenues and expenditures are nearly stationary, the receipts amounting to 45,475*l.* in 1871 against 45,245*l.* in 1870, and the expenditure amounting to 41,711*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* in 1871 against 43,407*l.* in 1870.

10. I detailed at length in my Report on the Blue Book for 1870 the public debts of the Colony, and I may here briefly recapitulate them. First, the Colonial debt guaranteed by Parliament, and commonly called the "guaranteed loan," amounted originally to 125,000*l.*, of which 40,000*l.* was paid in 1870, 60,000*l.* falls due next year, and 25,000*l.* in 1874. Towards the repayment of this loan there was a sum of 78,907*l* 18*s.* 3*d.* invested on 31st December last in consols. The public buildings loan, which, like the guaranteed loan, is wholly chargeable upon the public revenues, was originally 16,000*l.*, of which 12,800*l.* has been paid, leaving 3,200*l.* still due, payable by instalments of 1,600*l.* in 1872 and the same sum in 1873. The tramroad and highway loans, still unpaid, amounted originally in the whole to 108,510*l.*, of which 47,810*l.* has been paid, leaving 60,700*l.* The continued interest and sinking funds of these loans are secured partly upon local revenues and partly upon the estates which benefit by the improvements effected by means of the loans.

Public Works.

11. The new police barracks was still the principal work under prosecution in 1871, and considerable progress was made in the erection of the walls. The new wing at the lunatic asylum was completed at a total cost of 2,285*l.*, being 127*l.* in excess of the estimated cost. Several improvements were made to the older parts of the asylum at the request of the medical superintendent, and some repairs were effected for the better preservation of the building, at a total cost of 654*l.* A new iron framed roof covered with slate was placed upon the walls of the older and principal part of the royal gaol, at a cost of 931*l.*, the estimate for the work being 1,000*l.* The king s wharf jetty, for which 500*l.* was appropriated, was completed for the sum of 485*l.* The great work of filling in the swamp at the east end of the town, commonly called the wharf improvement, was

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steadily prosecuted at a cost of 4,671*l.* This work is now approaching completion. The sum of 737*l.*, being 287*l.* in excess of the estimate, was expended in various improvements at the Colonial and San Fernando hospitals, asked for by the Surgeon-General and medical officers. Various minor repairs detailed in the Blue Book were effected during the year. Two great and necessary works for which provision was made in the estimates were unhappily delayed,—the Court House and waterworks at San Fernando. For the former work advertisements were repeatedly issued calling for tenders, but without response; and finding it impossible to procure the execution of the work by contract, I have been obliged to authorize it to be commenced by day labour under the supervision of the Public Works Department. The construction of the waterworks has been delayed by unavoidable circumstances; the requisite levels are now being taken, and this most necessary work will be prosecuted without further delay than is necessary for a careful consideration of the most reliable and economical means of supplying the town with wholesome water.

12. The improvement of the royal roads and the construction of bridges was pursued without an interruption throughout the year. The fine new iron bridge over the Godineau River, 150 feet span, was completed and opened for traffic in November; the new iron bridge over the Arouca River, 165 feet span, was built and opened in June; and a new iron bridge was procured from England, which is now being erected over the Cipero River at Union Hall.

13. Besides the above works, which were carried on under the direct supervision of the Superintendent of Public Works, several improvements were effected in the royal roads, committed by my predecessor to the care of Mr. Farfan. Wooden bridges were thrown over the Valencia and Cunapita Rivers, and the material provided for others over the Mamo and Guayco Rivers and other smaller streams. Much, however, still remains to be done before the royal roads will be passable for animals during the wet season, owing to the nature of the soil and the great difficulty and expense of procuring gravel.

Legislation.

14. The following were the principal Ordinances enacted in 1871

15. No. 1, an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law with regard to the registration of droghers and of sailors. This law requires the registration of all vessels employed in the coasting trade of the Island, and the registration of all sailors employed therein. It imposes upon sailors penalties for refusing to work after entering into a contract to do so, or for wilful acts or negligence by which property is destroyed or injured. It gives to the sailors a summary mode of recovering moneys due to them, and empowers the Harbour Master to hear and determine all complaints and disputes between employers and sailors in a summary way.

16. No. 2. This Ordinance assimilates the colonial law of procedure and practice in cases of ejectment to the English law.

17. No. 6. This Ordinance gives power to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company to erect their wires through the Island,

and secures to the company the subsidy which had been previously agreed upon. The West India deep-sea cable has been brought from Grenada and landed on the north coast of Trinidad at a place called Macaripe Cove. Thence the land wires carry the telegraph to the south coast, whence the cable is laid to Demerara. By the land line the towns of Port-of-Spain and San Fernando, with the important districts of Chaguanas and Conva are brought into telegraphic communication with each other. Telegraphic communication with England was not completed until 1872.

18. No. 7. This Ordinance was passed in order to relieve persons intending to practise as attorneys and solicitors from the necessity of receiving their education in England. It allows them to be enrolled after serving their articles in the Colony, but in order to maintain a sufficient standard of education, it is provided that before any person shall become an articled clerk "he shall undergo an examination in "elementary general knowledge," to be regulated by the Judges of the Supreme Court, and such articled clerks are subsequently required to pass the examination of the Incorporated Law Society in London before they can be admitted to practise.

19. No. 8. This Ordinance grants to the Hamburg American Company the same privileges for their steamers as are accorded to other Steam Packet Companies.

20. No. 9, Quarantine Ordinance. This law is enacted upon the basis laid down in Earl Granville's Despatch of 30th March, 1869. An island in the Gulf, on which are three convenient houses, has been selected as the lazaretto, and is kept ready (except as to furniture) for immediate use.

21. The Ordinances 10, 11, and 14 regulate the proceedings in bankruptcy and the punishment of fraudulent debtors, and limit imprisonment for debt. The principle adopted in this Legislation is that of the latest English Bankruptcy Act, as far as it can be adapted to the circumstances of the Colony. The Insolvent Act previously in force in the Colony, the defects of which were emphatically pointed out by legal members of the Council, has been repealed. This legislation only took effect from the commencement of the present year, and some time must elapse before any opinion can be formed on the working of the Ordinances.

22. In pursuance of your Lordship's instructions, a proclamation was issued in November, 1871, proclaiming in a formal manner the Foreign Enlistment Act, 1870.

23. Proclamations were issued from time to time during the intensity of the dry season prohibiting, under the authority of the Fire Ordinance of 1870, the setting fire to land in those parts where it could endanger property. The proclamations were generally respected, and no serious accidents by fire occurred.

24. Later in the year I was under the necessity of issuing, at the instance of the Board of Health, two proclamations, bringing into force, at first in the town of Port-of-Spain and afterwards through the whole Island, the provisions of the third part of the Public Health Ordinance, in consequence of the introduction and subsequent spread of the small-pox, the progress of which I have from time to time reported to your Lordship.

Civil Establishment.

25. Few changes took place in the personnel of the establishment in 1871. The principal ones were the appointmeut of Mr. Lovesy, Barrister-at-law, to be Police Magistrate of Port-of-Spain, in place of Mr. James S. Hobson, deceased, and the appointment of Mr. J. J. Day, to be teacher of Chemistry, and of Mr. Bishop, to be third Master of the Queen's Royal College, the former being a newly created appointment, the latter post being vacant by the resignation of Mr. Lambert. There were several departmental promotions in the Receiver-General's Department, and some minor changes which are detailed in the Blue Book.

Population.

26. The decennial census was taken on the 10th of April, 1871, and I reported the results in my Report on the Blue Book for 1870, paragraphs 46, 7, 8, 9, to which I would refer. The information furnished by the Registrar-General in the accompanying Blue Book is very meagre, but I have directed him to compile a set of Tables, which will show the population of each ward, its area, and the extent of land under cultivation, as ascertained at the last triennial assessment, which I hope to be enabled to forward at an early date.

Ecclesiastical.

27. During the year 1871 the principle of complete religious equality, announced in your Lordship's Despatch of the 6th of January, 1871, as the object which Her Majesty's Government desired to attain in these Colonies, was carried into effect by the resolutions passed by the Council on the 1st of August last, the first clause of which declares "that it is expedient that the grant of public money "now made in aid of the maintenance of Christian worship shall here-"after be divided among the several Christian communities in "Trinidad, in proportion to the number of members belonging to "each communion." In carrying out this great principle, existing personal interests were carefully respected. As no religious census had been taken since 1851, it was resolved as a temporary measure that the amount paid to the Archbishop of Port-of-Spain for the use of the Roman Catholic Church should be raised to a total sum of 6,500*l.* per annum (including all existing salaries); that the sum paid to the representatives of the Church of England should not be reduced below 3,000*l.*; and that the Wesleyan, Presbyterian, and Baptist communities should receive respectively, 500*l.*, 300*l.*, and 200*l.* per annum. The Presbyterians and Baptists, being opposed to the principle of state aid, declined to receive the sums allotted to them; which, therefore, remain in the Treasury. It was thought desirable to provide for the increase in the grant to the Roman Catholic Church, and for the grants to the Dissenting bodies, without waiting for corresponding reduction in the Anglican Church, and for this purpose the total ecclesiastical grant has been temporarily increased, but it will (unless otherwise ordered hereafter) be redeemed,

as vacancies fall in, to the amount at which the ecclesiastical grant stood, before these changes were introduced, namely, 10,435*l.* per annum.

Education.

28. The Queen's Royal College, with which the Roman Catholic College of the Immaculate Conception is now in connection, numbers a total of 142 students, of whom 135 were present at the examination held in December last, 68 being directly from the Royal College, under the principal, Mr. Deighton, and 67 from the College of the Immaculate Conception, which is under the administration of Père Corbet. At the combined examination of the students in both colleges, which (as I above mentioned) was held last December, the great majority of the students passed. An improvement in the mode of conducting these combined examinations has been suggested by Père Corbet, which is under consideration. Two students of the College, both exhibitioners, distinguished themselves during the past year, Mr. G. R. Bushe having obtained a scholarship at King's College, Cambridge, and Mr. G. M. Knox, the Gilchrist Scholarship at the London University. The addition which has been made to the staff at the Royal College by the appointment of a teacher of chemistry, will be a great advantage to the students of both the colleges, who will attend Mr. Day's lectures together, a mode of instruction which will, I trust, be extended to all branches of science to which there is no objection on religious grounds.

29. With regard to Primary Schools, the returns furnished by the Inspector of Schools show on the whole a fair progress. The number of scholars attending the model and other Government and State-aided schools is returned as 3,924 against 3,250 in 1870, and the number attending at private or church schools is estimated at 1,500, against 1,205 in 1870, showing that the number of children attending schools of primary instruction is 5,424 against 4,455 in 1870. Large as this increase is, the number of children in the schools is still by no means commensurate with the requirements of the Colony. The census taken last April showed that there were then in the Island 109,638 inhabitants, of whom 41,374 were under 20 years of age. It may fairly be assumed that after excluding from this number infants and those above 15 years of age, there remained at least one-third, or nearly 14,000 children of an age to attend school; yet the returns show that all the children in all the schools throughout the Island only number 5,424, less than half the number who ought to be at school.

30. Two new State-aided schools were opened in 1871, one in connection with the Roman Catholic Church in Port-of-Spain, at which there are 169 boys; and one, under the management of a committee, at San Fernando, intended expressly for Coolie children, of whom 98 attend it. Some other private Coolie schools have lately been opened by large proprietors for the benefit of the Coolie children upon their estates.

31. The attendance at the schools known as "Ward schools" has varied in particular instances, but on the whole has increased. The masters of these schools have undergone two examinations as to their

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attainments and capacity of teaching; many of them have obtained third-class certificates, and one a second-class certificate, but it has been necessary to dispense with the services of some who did not attend the examination to which they were summoned. Several pupils of the normal school passed in a manner creditable to their training, and which, I hope, indicates an improvement in the school since Mr. Keenan inspected and reported upon it three years ago.

32. One of the greatest hindrances to the advancement of education is the unsuitable character of many of the Ward school-houses, and their deficiency in many of the most essential requirements of furniture, and even in the most necessary convenience. This was pointed out in great detail by Mr. Keenan in his Report. Since that time several of the school-houses have been repaired and enlarged, and four new ones are now being rebuilt. The rules of the Board of Health as to the provision of lavatories and latrines have been enforced. The boy's model school, so strongly condemned by Mr. Keenan, has been removed from Woodbrook to more commodious premises in Port-of-Spain, and though much still remains to be done, I venture to hope that in two years more all the wards will be furnished with commodious and well constructed school-houses, supplied with all the requisites for teaching.

Trade and Commerce.

33. The total value of imports into Trinidad in 1871 is returned at 1,218,024*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, and the total value of exports at 1,492,811*l.*, being an increase of more than 16 per cent. both in the imports and in the exports over the trade of 1870.

34. The imports from Great Britain and the British Possessions, and from the United States, were largely increased; the imports from Venezuela were diminished by the civil war and the blockade of the Orinoco; those from other countries remained almost stationary. The respective values were as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
From the United Kingdom	535,542	5	10
„ British Possessions	219,199	0	0
„ United States	214,043	15	3
„ Venezuela	147,616	0	0
„ France and French Colonies	64,647	19	11
„ other countries	36,975	4	7
	£1,218,024	5	7

35. The exports were chiefly to the United Kingdom, as will be seen from the following abstract of their respective values:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
To the United Kingdom	1,217,154	1	6
„ British Possessions	38,199	2	6
„ the United States	94,431	7	0
„ Venezuela	70,719	9	0
„ France and French Colonies	52,447	11	0
„ other countries	19,859	9	0
	£1,492,811	0	0

36. The great increase in the exports was largely due to the excellent sugar crop, which yielded 1,071,839 cwt., being 30 per cent. more than the crop of 1870. That crop was, however, deficient, and I therefore subjoin the last ten years' export, which will show more clearly the great increase in the crop of 1871:—

	Cwt.
Export of sugar 1861	549,464
" " " 1862	738,117
" " " 1863	668,255
" " " 1864	706,246
" " " 1865	560,166
" " " 1866	813,339
" " " 1867	828,116
" " " 1868	830,708
" " " 1869	929,365
" " " 1870	819,043
Average of 10 years	744,281
Export of sugar 1871	1,071,839

37. In the export of the second great staple of the Colony, cacao, there was a decrease in 1871 of more than 10 per cent. below the export of 1870, the quantity exported (the produce of the Colony) being only 57,339 cwt., against 64,076 in the preceding year.

38. There was also a great falling off in the quantity of asphalte exported from the Pitch Lake, which fell from 9,029 tons in 1870 to 3,271 tons in 1871.

39. There was a satisfactory increase in the quantity of cocoanuts and cocoanut fibre exported in 1871, the value of which was estimated at 8,732*l.* in 1871 against 2,863*l.* in the preceding year. The cocoanut can be grown in unlimited quantities on the eastern coast of the Island, where two factories have been established for some time for the preparation of oil and fibre. The difficulties of procuring labour in that remote part of the Island, and of shipping the produce on an exposed coast, have hitherto retarded the commercial success of these establishments; but if these difficulties can be overcome, a large extension may be given to this branch of colonial industry.

40. The commerce of the Colony was carried on in 860 vessels, which entered at the ports of the Colony in 1871, of an aggregate tonnage of 210,924 tons. Of these, 567 vessels, of a total tonnage of 125,323 tons, were British, and 293 vessels, of 85,601 tons, were foreign.

Agriculture.

41. The triennial assessment of ward-rates upon all land under cultivation was made in 1871, and gave the following total results:—

Land under crop	83,841 acres.
Pasture land	6,430 "
Total	90,271 "

This assessment shows that while 12,909 acres have been brought

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under crop since the last assessment in 1868, eleven-twelfths of the surface of the Island is still uncleared.

42. Among the "improvements in agriculture and manufactures" made during the past year, may be mentioned the erection of a splendid set of works, with new and powerful machinery, upon the estates of Messrs. Tennant in Naparima, and a large usine is being built for the Colonial Company in the midst of their estates in the same quarter.

Grants of Land.

43. Six hundred and ninety-seven grants of Crown land were made in 1871. Of these only four were for quantities over 100 acres, the largest grant was 170 acres. All the land was sold at the upset price of 1*l.* per acre, except the lands granted to Coolies in lieu of return passage to India, and 62 grants issued confirming to certain old soldiers of disbanded West India Regiments the lands allotted to them on the disbandment of their respective regiments, but for which no formal grants had been previously issued. I reported on this subject in my Despatch, No. 193, dated the 16th of November, 1870.

Criminal Statistics.

44. It appears that, while the number of prisoners has increased by about six per cent. (2,136 in 1871 against 2,012 in 1870), the number of the most serious crimes has decreased in the following proportion:—

	1870.	1871.
Committed for murder - - - -	11	4
„ „ killing and slaying - - -	20	1
„ „ stabbing and wounding - -	22	17
„ „ burglary - - - - -	17	2
„ „ arson - - - - -	7	0

The committals for breach of the Immigration or Labour Laws rose from 727 in 1870 to 830 in 1871. These are merely statutable offences, punishable by a few days' imprisonment.

45. New rules for the government of the gaol, for the separation of prisoners, for maintenance of better discipline both among the officers of the prison and the prisoners, have been draughted and are under consideration. The principle of enabling a prisoner to earn by industry and good conduct a remission of part of his sentence, is embodied in these rules.

46. I regret to say that the industrial and reformatory school, to the need of which your Lordship called my attention last October, has not yet been established. As far back as 1858 the want of such a school was brought under the notice of my predecessor by the Inspector of Prisons, and a Committee was appointed by Sir Arthur Gordon to consider the subject. It appears to have been generally agreed by the Committee that in such a school the duties of religion ought to be taught; but it was less easy to decide what religion should be taught in a school which must comprise Roman Catholic, Protestant, and non-Christian children in varying numbers, and the

Committee have not yet submitted any Report. The subject is engaging my attention, and I hope to be able to establish a reformatory, sufficient at least for the few children who are sent to prison, at an early date.

Hospitals, Asylums, and Charitable Institutions.

47. The returns show a satisfactory state of things in the Colonial hospital, 2,067 patients having been treated during the year, among whom the death-rate was less than 10 per cent. In the San Fernando hospital the statistics, though not so favourable as those of the Port-of-Spain hospital, show an improvement on preceding years; 821 patients having been treated, with a death-rate of 15½ per cent. The "dry-earth system" has been introduced with great advantage into the hospitals, under the vigilant care of the Surgeon-General, Dr. Crane. At the lunatic asylum the average daily number of patients was 94; 31 were admitted, 15 discharged, and 12 died during the year. I regret that I am unable to send by the present mail the general Report of the Surgeon-General upon these and the other medical institutions of the Colony under his general superintendence, the preparation of which has necessarily been delayed by the amount of work thrown upon him as medical officer of health in connection with the epidemic.

Conclusion.

48. Early in 1871 I had the honour to submit to your Lordship a plan for reviving a project, entertained many years ago but subsequently abandoned, of constructing a railroad between Port-of-Spain and Arima. Your Lordship was pleased to sanction the proposal for the construction of the line as a Government railway, and the Legislature unanimously agreed to the resolutions proposed on the subject. The engineers who were appointed to make a survey for the proposed line arrived late in the year, and have completed their work. This railroad will be 16 miles long, and will bring a populous district into easy and rapid communication with Port-of-Spain; but though complete in itself, it will, I trust, only be the first part of a well-considered system of railway communication extending over the Caroni River into the wards of Chaguanas, Couva, and Savonetta, and connecting the fertile county of Caroni with the capital.

49. It is further proposed in connection with the railway to build a pier in the harbour of Port-of-Spain, with sufficient depth of water for ships to lie alongside of it and take their cargoes from or discharge them into the trucks on a tramway connected with the railway, so that heavy produce, supplies, and machinery may be carried directly between the estates and the ship's side; and I have directed the Superintendent of Public Works, in conjunction with the railway engineers, to examine and report upon the practicability and probable expense of such a work.

50. I regret, in conclusion, to have to notice the terrible calamity which befell the Island through the introduction of the small-pox in August last, by a stranger, who appears to have contracted the disease on board one of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's

TRINIDAD.

ships. The disease took an epidemic form almost at once, but did not increase very fast until the beginning of the present year, when it spread with the frightful rapidity which I have already reported to your Lordship. The deep gloom occasioned by the presence of this malignant epidemic amongst us was further increased by the intelligence which the telegraph brought in December of the calamity which for some days seemed to be impending over the Empire while the life of the Prince of Wales appeared to hang in the balance.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. R. LONGDEN,
Governor.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

[S. J.]

BARBADOS.

BARBADOS.

No. 9.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor RAWSON, C.B., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Windward Islands, Barbados,
August 22, 1872.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith two copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1871, together with my Report thereon.

2. It has not been found possible to transmit either at an earlier date. The last proof sheets of the volume did not reach me before the 13th instant, and the complete copies only to-day.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RAWSON W. RAWSON,
Governor.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT.

The year 1871 was a favourable one for the Island. The sugar crop turned out larger than was expected. Trade was generally thriving. The value of imports exceeded that of 1870 by nearly an eighth; that of exports was one-third in excess. The population was healthy. Political acrimony had abated. Nothing of importance occurred to disturb the commercial or social atmosphere. The Island was happily exempt from those destructive influences which affected other Islands in these seas: the violent hurricane which swept over the northern portion of the Leeward Islands and the Virgin Islands; the conflagration which reduced the greater portion of the capital of Guadeloupe to ashes; the political troubles, causing a serious loss of life and property in Martinique; the outbreak of small-pox in Trinidad.

2. The first two events gave an impetus to the trade of this Island in lumber and building materials, &c. The last, which occurred toward the close of the year, checked the trade with Trinidad, by rendering the enforcement of quarantine necessary, but the commercial relations between the two Islands are not very extensive, and means have since been found of allowing vessels to discharge and receive cargo in quarantine.

3. The most untoward event of the year was the smallness of the rainfall during the latter part of it, which threatened disappointment as regards the sugar crop of the present year. Up to the end of the first six months the canes looked well, and hopes were entertained that another good crop would help to compensate the planters for their two deficient crops in 1869–70, to which I gave expression in concluding my Report of last year; but these were crushed by the rainfall of the last six months: and a total annual rainfall of 41·46 inches, being 28 per cent. below the average (57·74 inches) the effects of which were visible throughout the greater part of the Island at the close of the year, gave cause for apprehending that the crop would fall far below an average, which has proved to be the case.

4. The annual returns present the following noticeable features:—

1. *Taxes, &c.*

Certain changes were made in the Customs duties at the commencement of the second quarter of the year. The duties on lumber, hoops and staves, malt liquor, spirits, and tobacco were doubled, and the privilege enjoyed by vessels of 60 tons, in only paying tonnage dues twice a year, was extended to vessels of 75 tons.

5. An important measure was passed for placing the distillation of rum, and the sale of spirituous liquors under the control of a staff of revenue officers, the operation of which, however, concerns the transactions of the present year, as it did not come into force until the 1st January, although the prospect of the change influenced the receipt of rum duties during the year 1871.

2. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

6. Last year I furnished a comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure for the three years 1868–70. On this occasion I shall compare the results of 1871 with the average of those three years, and with the last of them.

7. The gross revenue, thus shown, was:—

	£
In 1871 - - - - -	119,492
„ 1870 - - - - -	104,931
„ 1868–70 (average) - -	104,360

8. The increase of 14,561*l.* over 1870 arose chiefly under the following heads:—

	£
Customs - - - - -	10,691
Tonnage and port dues - - -	810
Militia tax- - - - -	917
Rum duties - - - - -	2,320
Liquor licences - - - -	570

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The improvement under the first two heads was partly owing to the large sugar crop of the year, and partly, to the extent of 2,638*l.*, to the change in the duties above noticed. The increased receipts from militia tax arose from greater activity in the collection. The increase in the rum duties and liquor licences was caused partly by the large sugar crop, and partly, no doubt, by the anticipated action of the Legislature in establishing an efficient supervision of the stills and spirit shops.

9. The sum of 684*l.* received under the Superannuation Act, against which future pensions will become chargeable, can scarcely be accounted as available revenue. The only decrease in any branch of receipt was in the water-rate, and was caused by an extraordinary receipt in 1870. Of the nett increase, 1,786*l.* was applicable to the Public Buildings Fund, the comparative receipts of which, without making allowance for drawbacks, stand thus :—

	£
1871- - - - - -	10,795
1870 - - - - - -	9,008

10. The expenditure of 1871, exclusive of the Public Buildings Fund, was, as anticipated, considerably greater than in the years immediately preceding :—

	£
1871 - - - - -	112,284
1870 - - - - - -	97,149
1868–70 (average) - - -	95,931

11. The amount of extraordinary expenditure under, chiefly, the heads of Molehead Department, Public Works, Roads, Advances, and Special Grants, considerably exceeded that of 1870, or of the average :—

	£
1871- - - - - -	20,659
1870 - - - - - -	12,964
1868–70 (average) - - -	15,900

12. Deducting these figures from the gross expenditure, the ordinary expenditure was in

	£
1871- - - - - -	91,625
1870 - - - - - -	84,185
1868–70 (average) - - -	80,031

13. The chief items of increase in 1871 were :—

	£
Endowment of Nonconformists - - -	253
„ Middle schools - - -	625
Vaccination - - - - - -	1,250
Drawbacks - - - - - - -	476
Census - - - - - - -	1,336
Public Buildings Fund (nominal, a transfer)	1,502
	£5,442

14. Among the grants included in the extraordinary expenditure in paragraph 11, are two which merit special notice—one of 1,000*l.* to the sufferers by the fire which destroyed four-fifths of the capital town of Pointe a Pitre, in Guadeloupe; the other of 1,600*l.* in aid of the sufferers by the hurricane of August 21st, in Antigua, St. Kitts, St. Thomas, and the Virgin Islands. Those contributions were supplemented by the public of Barbados to the extent of 326*l.* in aid of the former, and 1,100*l.* in aid of the latter object. From the last fund assistance was sent to St. Eustatius and Saba.

15. Notwithstanding the increased expenditure, the balance in the Treasurer's hands and Colonial Bank, applicable to general purposes, was only reduced during the year from 13,335*l.* to 10,480*l.*

3. *Local Revenues.*

16. The parochial revenues and expenditure have somewhat increased. The total receipts, exclusive of balances, were :—

	£
In years ending 31st March, 1869	21,142
1870	20,656
1871	22,265

The expenditure in the same years was :—

	£
In years ending 31st March, 1869	21,526
1870	21,339
1871	22,213

The expenditure upon the poor in these years was :—

	£
In 1869	6,987
„ 1870	7,141
„ 1871	7,658

17. A reference to last year's Report shows that the parochial expenditure on educational purposes averages about 1,450*l.* a year, and upon the maintenance of the churches, 2,500*l.* a year.

18. The revenue raised by the Road Commissioners, exclusive of Parliamentary grants, was somewhat less last year :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In 1869	6,911	17	2
„ 1870	7,001	2	4
„ 1871	6,794	15	5

19. The numbers of animals and carriages taxed in the last two years exhibit a small increase in 1871, which may be taken to indicate the absence of any falling off in these instruments of usefulness or comfort; unless it be only attributable to a more active collection :—

	1870.	1871.
Horses	1,909	1,915
Mules	3,287	3,562
Asses	804	861
Wheels of burthen	7,666	7,918
„ pleasure	3,948	4,038

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20. The total parochial taxation during the year ended 31st March, 1871, has thus amounted to 29,059*l.*, which is equal to 24·3 per cent. of the total gross general taxation of the Colony during the year ended 31st December, 1871. If compared with the same general revenue for the year ended 31st December, 1870, which approximates more closely to the termination of the parochial year, it would amount to 28 per cent.

21. The above parochial taxation, 29,059*l.* added to the general revenue of 1871, 119,492*l.*, amounts to 148,551*l.*, which is equal to 1*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* per acre of the area, and to 18*s.* 4½*d.* per head of the population.

4. *Public Debt.*

22. No general debt.

5. *Military Expenditure.*

23. The expenditure of Her Majesty's Government under this head has slightly increased during the past year, chiefly under the head of Provisions, Forage, Fuel and Light, Transport, &c., the charge for which fluctuates with the current prices :—

	£
In 1868	87,428
„ 1869	90,887
„ 1870	77,258
„ 1871	81,136

The expenditure on account of Works and Buildings was 6,985*l.*, almost the same as in 1870.

6. *Public Works.*

24. The expenditure under the head of Public Works in the revenue and expenditure account amounts to 20,436*l.*, viz. :—

	£
Molehead	4,099
Works and buildings	4,260
Government House	240
Roads	7,950
City roads Commissioners	3,887
Total	£20,436

25. The progress of the more important works which have been undertaken, and the expenditure upon each up to the close of the year, is shown in the following statement :—

	Estimate.	Expended to 31st Dec., 1871.
Public buildings :—	£	£
West wing	17,000	9,208
East wing	20,000	29
Molehead and wharf walls	3,000	1,258
Swing bridge	6,300	3,850
Inner basin	6,000	410
Total	£52,300	£14,755

It may here be stated that the west wing of the public buildings was finished on 24th January, 1872, and the swing bridge was opened on 21st April of the present year.

7. *Legislation.*

26. No Acts of much importance were passed during the year. The principal were:—

1. No. 6. For taking a Census of the Island.
2. No. 8. For amending the Trade Act. This Act raised certain Customs duties already noticed (Para. 4).
3. No. 18. For authorizing the apprehension of deserters from foreign vessels. The object of this was to enable the masters of American whalers visiting the port to recover their crews breaking leave.
4. No. 23. For granting aid to the Wesleyan Mission established in Barbados.
5. No. 24. For granting an annual sum towards the support of the Roman Catholic Church.

These two Acts are the complement of the one passed last year, granting aid to the Moravian Mission, the only other dissenting body in the Colony.

6. No. 25. For making better provision for the collection of the duty on rum.
7. No. 26. For regulating the sale of liquors and wine by retail.
8. No. 27. For assisting the Education Committee to sustain the guaranteed salaries of the masters of Harrison's Free School.

8. *Political Franchise—Councils and Assembly.*

27. No change took place in the Council during the year. At the annual election of the Assembly, which took place on the 16th January, three new members were elected without a contest, in the place of others who retired from the House. Among these was the late Speaker, Mr. T. Gill. Mr. Augustus Briggs was elected in his place.

9. *Population.*

28. A decennial Census of the population was taken on the 2nd April of this year. The results have been published in a series of Tables, of which copies were forwarded to your Lordship in my Despatch, No. 132, of 24th October. Similar enumerations were made in 1851 and 1861, and an earlier one was made in 1844, but this is believed to have been incorrect. I have prepared a detailed Report upon the results of the last three censuses, which is in the hands of the printer. It is too voluminous, and enters into too many minutiæ for insertion in this Report, or for annexure as an Appendix. I will therefore select some of the leading facts of general interest, or which throw light upon the general condition of the Island population.

29. *Area.*—The extent of the Island is 166 square miles, or 106,470 acres, of which 101,182 were taxed for parochial purposes in 1870, and may therefore be assumed to be under cultivation, or in profitable occupation.

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30. *Population.*—The numbers taken at each of the three last censuses, exclusive of shipping, were :—

In 1851 - - - - -	135,939
„ 1861 - - - - -	152,275
„ 1871 - - - - -	161,594

The actual and percentage increase at the two latter periods have been

	Actual.	Percentage.
In 1861 - -	16,336 -	12·0
„ 1871 - - -	9,319 -	6·1

31. *Rate of Increase.*—The last statement shows a very slow rate of actual increase; but this has been caused by a heavy mortality from cholera in 1854, and by a large emigration between 1861 and 1871. There is no registration of births and deaths in the Island, as has been stated in previous Reports, but from two or three independent calculations it is certain that the natural rate of increase is at least from 2·7 to 2·8 per cent. annually, which, if it had not been interfered with by the above circumstances, would have brought up the population, in 1861, to 173,002, and in 1871, to 219,712.

32. *Mortality in* 1854.—The recorded excess of burials in 1854 over the average was about 7,000, but there is sufficient evidence to show that it did not fall short of 20,000, but probably exceeded that number. The mortality appears to have been general. There is evidence of its having fallen upon the classes between 31 and 60, and upon young children; and its effects were visible in the censuses of 1861 and 1871.

33. *Emigration in* 1861–71.—As there is no record of arrivals and departures kept in the Island, the extent of this can only be arrived at approximately, more especially as the departure of young adult males and females affects the increase of the population by births. From returns, however, obtained from Demerara and several of the neighbouring British islands, with the Danish island of St. Croix, it is shown that they obtained more than 20,400 emigrants from Barbados in these ten years; and from a calculation founded upon the normal annual rate of increase, 2·7 a year, it would appear that the effect of emigration by departure, and by the check to increase, has been to reduce the natural increase from 46,710 to 9,319.

34. *Density.*—The average number to the acre is 1·51, to the square mile, 966. In Bridgetown and the suburban parish of St. Michael's the density is 3,244 to a square mile, or 5·07 to an acre. In the rural parishes it varies from 844 to the square mile, or 1·32 to the acre, down to 556 to the square mile, or 0·87 to the acre. The extremes are in the adjoining parishes of St. Joseph and St. Andrew, both in "Scotland," the former being the most populous parish in the Island.

35. *Distribution.*—Of the total population in 1871, two-fifths, 41·6, were in Bridgetown and the two suburban parishes of St.

Michael and Christ Church. In the remaining parishes the percentage varied from 10·7 in St. Philip to 4·7 in St. Andrew.

36. Comparing the percentages of area and population, the order of the several parishes stands thus:—

	Area.	Population.
St. Philip	14·1	40·7
Christ Church	13·4	11·2
St. Michael (including Bridgetown)	9·	30·4
St. George	10·2	8·8
St. Andrew	8·3	4·7
St. Lucy	8·2	5·5
St. John	8·1	6·0
St. Thomas	8·0	6·3
St. Peter	7·8	5·8
St. James	7·3	5·6
St. Joseph	5·6	5·0
Total	100·	100·

37. The density has increased between 1851 and 1871 in Bridgetown and four parishes; it has decreased in seven country parishes. But there was a positive decrease in Bridgetown in 1861; and while all the other parishes had a greater or less increase in 1871, there was a decrease of 2·3 per cent. in St. Peter.

38. *Number in a Family.*—The average of the Island is 5·3. In Bridgetown it is 4·6; in Speightstown, 4·4. In the rural districts it is 5·5, varying from 5·8 to 5·3.

39. *Origin.*—The population of Barbados is almost indigenous. Of the total number, 16,651, there were

Born in the Colony	98·3	per cent.
„ United Kingdom	·7	„
„ British Possessions	·8	„
„ Foreign Countries	·2	„

40. The extent to which the pure African race has died out is shown in the fact that only 62 persons were reported to have been born in Africa. The number in 1861 was 494. In 1851 it was not distinguished.

41. Although the commercial relations of the Island with the United States are very extensive, and the communication is so frequent, the latter exceeding that with the United Kingdom, there were only 87 natives of the United States in the Island, including those on board the shipping, at the time of the census.

42. *Complexion.*—The population has been divided, for the purposes of the Census, into three classes. The proportion and progress of each is shown in the following statement:—

		White.	Coloured.	Black.
Number	1851	15,824	30,059	90,056
	1861	16,594	36,128	100,005
	1871	16,560	39,578	105,904
Percentage	1851	11·7	22·1	66·2
	1861	10·9	23·6	65·5
	1871	10·2	24·4	65·4

43. In the first ten years the changes were:—

Whites (increase) - - - -	5·0
Coloured „ - - - -	20·0
Black „ - - - -	11·0

In the next ten years they have been:—

Whites (decrease) - - - -	0·2
Coloured (increase) - - - -	9·5
Black „ - - - -	5·9

44. *Proportion of the Sexes.*—In 1871 the numbers and percentage proportion were:—

Males - -	73,005	= 45·2 per cent.
Females - -	88,589	= 54·8 „

The proportion was scarcely altered by including the shipping, and the relation of the two sexes was 121 females to each 100 males.

45. There is a difference in the three classes distinguished by colour, viz.:—

	Males.	Females.
Whites - - -	47·9	52·1
Coloured - - -	43·5	56·5
Black - - -	45·6	54·4

It may be a question whether the excess in the proportion of coloured females may not have been caused by a desire on the part of black females to register themselves as coloured.

46. There is, as was to be expected, a larger proportion of females in the towns than in the rural parishes, viz.:—

In Bridgetown - -	60·3	Average 59·3
„ Speightstown - - -	59·5	
„ Rural parishes - -	54·	

47. *Ages.*—The proportion at three great epochs of life, at the last two censuses, is shown in the following statement:—

	1861.	1871.
Under 16 - - -	45·9	43·8
From 16 to 50 - -	45·3	47·1
Above 50 - - -	8·8	9·1

48. A remarkable feature is the excess in the proportion and increase of males at the younger ages, and of females at the higher ages. This is of sufficient interest to be inserted in some detail.

Ages.	Males.		Females.	
	1861.	1871.	1861.	1871.
Not above 5 - - -	18·8	19·7	16·6	16·2
From 6 to 15 - - -	30·2	28·6	26·6	24·2
16 „ 20 - - -	11·9	12·7	12·6	12·8
21 „ 30 - - -	15·2	15·9	16·3	19
31 „ 40 - - -	9·3	9·1	10·6	10·3
41 and above - -	14·6	13·9	17·3	17·5
Total - - -	100	100	100	100

49. Looking to the detail of ages under 5, and to the actual numbers, it appears that the males preponderate up to 6 years of age, but that at every other period of life the females preponderate, and that the excess between 16 and 40 amounts to 9,599 females, or 25·7 per cent. Between 21 and 40 the difference is 18,392 males to 25,995 females, or 142 females to every 100 males. Such a disproportion cannot but be highly injurious both to the healthy progress and to the morality of the population, especially in a country where, among a large portion of the inhabitants, it is no disgrace to have illegitimate children.

50. The disproportion does not date from 1861, but it has increased since that year, when the excess of females between the ages of 16 and 40 amounted to 6,589, or 20·3 per cent. Although the percentage increase has been only 5·4 per cent., the actual numerical increase is 3,010 females, whose position the politician, philanthropist, and moralist have to consider, and whose further increase by an ill-regulated emigration it is their duty to prevent, if possible.

51. The disturbing influences of the difference in the character of the town and rural population is shown in the statement that, while the average proportion of children not exceeding 10 years of age is 31 per cent. in the whole Island, it was 34 per cent. in the rural parishes, varying from 34·8 in St. Joseph's to 33·2 in Christ Church, while in Bridgetown, Speightstown, and the suburban parish of St. Michael, it averaged only 27·2, falling as low as 24·3 in Bridgetown.

52. There is a corresponding difference in the proportion of females between 21 and 40 in the towns and rural parishes. The average of the Island was 16·1 per cent. In the rural parishes it was 14·9, varying between 16·5 in St. Thomas and 12·8 in St. Andrew; but in the two towns and St. Michael it averaged 18·5, being as high as 20·7 in Bridgetown. This is the greatest evil of the disproportion of the sexes. The females flock into the towns, and what do they become there? The answer is in the Return of Occupations, which shows that while the proportion among the female population of women describing themselves as domestic servants, seamstresses, and washerwomen, varies in the rural districts from 13·1 to 20 per cent., it rises in St. Michael, the suburban parish, to 31·6, in Speightstown to 40·3, and in Bridgetown to 45·6 per cent.

53. *Civil Condition.*—A statement of the civil condition, without reference to age or sex, shows nothing. The following facts are drawn from an examination of the Tables:—

1. Very few of either sex are married before 20. In 1871 there were under that age only

175 males married, and 14 widowers.
413 females „ 30 widows.

2. Above 20 years of age the proportion of married and widowed in each sex was

Males married	·9	Widowers	3·8
Females „	·3	Widows	13·1

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54. *Occupations.*—In 1871 the occupations of the population, distinguishing the sexes, may thus be classed :—

Total population—male - - -		- 73,452
Of whom unemployed - - -	18,207	
At school - - - - -	14,775	
		32,982
		40,470
Agricultural, viz. :—		
Proprietors and employés - -	1,554	
Labourers - - - - -	18,947	
		20,501
		19,969
Partly agricultural :—		
Engineers and mechanics - -	6,848	
Domestics - - - - -	3,648	
		10,496
		9,473

Who are thus classed :—

Officers, civil - - - -	413
Military - - - - - -	777
Professional and school teachers -	286
Accountants, &c. - - - -	953
Traders and hucksters - - -	1,349
Artisans - - - - - -	1,499
Porters, &c. - - - - -	1,558
Sea-faring - - - - -	1,720
Various - - - - -	916
Total - - - -	9,473

As regards the females :—

Total population—female - - -		- 88,590
Of whom unemployed - - -	22,622	
At school - - - - -	14,305	
		36,927
		51,663
Agricultural, viz. :—		
Proprietors - - - - -	309	
Labourers - - - - -	23,323	
		23,632
		28,031
Partly agricultural :—		
Domestics - - - - - -		10,838
		17,193

Who are thus classed :—

Officers, civil	28
School teachers	283
Traders and hucksters	3,271
Seamstresses	8,868
Washerwomen	3,795
Labourers	231
Various	717
Total	17,193

55. Two features are remarkable in the Tables of Occupations. First, the number of females engaged in agricultural labour exceeds largely that of males, viz. :—

Males, adults	15,875	18,947
„ children	3,072	
Females, adults	20,588	23,323
„ children	2,735	

Secondly, the number of the population engaged in fishing is very small, only 719, or less than 1 per cent.

56. *Religion.*—Nearly nine-tenths of the population belong to the Church of England. The following is the number and proportion of the members of each denomination, inclusive of the shipping, which is not distinguished :—

	No.	Percentage.
Church of England	144,080	88·9
Wesleyans	12,267	7·6
Moravians	4,733	2·9
Roman Catholics	573	·3
Others and not stated	449	·3
Total	162,042	100

57. *Instruction and Employment of Children.*—There does not appear to have been any great increase in the proportion of children under 16 at school in 1871 over 1861; but the proportions of those being educated at home, or being in employment, have both increased in a very satisfactory degree :—

	1861.		1871.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
At school	33·9	32·	33·6	32·7
Educated at home	2·3	2·5	8·6	9·9
Employed	12	10·7	13	15·1
	48·2	45·2	55·6	57·7
Unemployed	51·8	54·8	44·4	42·3

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58. *Houses.*—The number in 1871 was:—

Inhabited	29,989
Uninhabited	906
Building	108

The proportion of the last two classes was the same in 1861 and 1871:—

Uninhabited	3·0 per cent.
Building	0·3 „

Of the inhabited houses,

6,188 were of stone.
23,399 „ wood.
402 „ other material.

59. The proportion of inhabited houses to an acre was one house to 3·55 acres. In 1861 it was one to 3·74 acres. The average proportion of inhabitants to a house was 5·34 in 1861, and 5·38 in 1871, which only slightly exceeds the average number in a family, shown in paragraph 38. The size of the houses may be judged from the following statement:—

Houses of 1 room	4,850
„ 2 rooms	19,747
„ 3 or more	5,392

60. The returns show that no less than 1816 of the one-roomed houses are occupied by more than 3 persons, and that 58 are occupied by 10 or more.

61. The houses were occupied by:—

14,212 proprietors,
14,880 renters.

The term "proprietor" has a wide signification in Barbados. A large number of the labouring class are owners of a wooden tenement, which they erect on a small piece of hired land anywhere, technically called "a spot," and which they transfer from site to site, according to their convenience or their exigencies.

62. *Comparison with other Colonies.*—I have been able to procure the census returns for the year 1871 from some other colonies. A comparison of them with that for Barbados will serve to bring out one or two of the features above described in a strong light.

63. First, as regards density, commencing with the Islands within this Government:—

	Area in square miles.	Population in 1871.	Number to a square mile
Barbados	166	162,042	966
St. Vincent (proper)	133·4	33,377	250
Grenada and Carriacou	133	37,684	284
Tobago	97	17,054	175
St. Lucia	248	31,610	127
Trinidad	1,754·5	109,638	62
British Guiana	76,000	193,491	25
St. Kitts	68	28,169	414
Antigua	108	34,344	318
Dominica	291	27,178	93
Bahamas	4,424	39,162	9
Honduras	9,000	24,710	under 3

64. As regards the proportions of the sexes, the first of the following Tables shows the percentage of the whole number of males and females; the second, of those between 20 and 40 :—

	Percentage of total Population.		Number of Females to 100 Males.
	Males.	Females.	
Barbados	45·2	54·8	121
Antigua	45·5	54·5	119
Dominica	46·8	53·2	114
St. Kitts	47·1	52·9	112
*St. Vincent (proper)	47·5	52·5	110
Tobago	48·4	51·6	107
*Grenada and Carriacou	48·5	51·5	106
*St. Lucia	48·6	51·4	106
Turks Islands	48·9	51·1	104
Bahamas	49·4	50·6	102
Honduras	51	49	96
British Guiana	56·2	43·8	78
Trinidad	59·2	40·8	69

The Colonies marked with an asterisk have been affected in the above respect by the introduction of Coolie labourers, of whom the females seldom equal half the number of males. The same circumstances affect the following Table for purposes of comparison, but not for that of the relative proportion of the sexes in each. The returns from Antigua, Dominica, and Trinidad do not afford the means of distinguishing the numbers.

POPULATION between 20 and 40 YEARS of AGE.

	Percentage of		Number of Females to 100 Males.
	Males.	Females.	
Barbados	41·2	58·8	142
Turks Islands	44·7	55·3	121
St. Kitts	46·7	53·3	114
Tobago	47·2	52·8	112
St. Vincent	47·6	52·4	110
Grenada	48·1	51·9	106
St. Lucia	49·6	50·4	102
Honduras	52·2	47·8	91
British Guiana	59·2	40·8	69

65. It is to be regretted that in the Census Tables from Trinidad and British Guiana the immigrant population is not distinguished from the native, and they do not therefore present the means of examining many interesting questions.

10. *Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials.*

66. I regret to have occasion to report that no Legislative Act has been passed, and that no disposition is evinced to pass one. Barbados remains the only island in the West Indies without a system of registering the movements of the population. It is to be hoped that the want of this, demonstrated in my Report on the late census, will lead to its not distant adoption.

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67. The abstract of the parochial registers, furnished annually by the clergy of the Established Church, exhibit the following results:—

BAPTISMS.	
In 1868	6,563
„ 1869	6,359
„ 1870	6,028
„ 1871	7,095
MARRIAGES.	
In 1868	637
„ 1869	603
„ 1870	620
„ 1871	757
BURIALS.	
In 1868	3,924
„ 1869	3,852
„ 1870	3,445
„ 1871	3,858

68. The baptisms, it will be seen, have increased in a proportion far exceeding that of any natural increase of the births, but this appears to have been owing to the figures in the last two years having been taken from different sources. In 1871 they have been taken from the Registrar's Abstract, and if they had been derived from the same source in 1870 the figures would stand:—

In 1870	6,667
„ 1871	7,095

The increase is 428, or 6·4 per cent.

69. The increase has been general, except in St. Michael an dSt. Joseph, viz.:—

	1870.	1871.	In 1871.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
St. Michael	1,822	1,794	—	28
Christ Church	794	865	71	—
St. Philip	707	737	30	—
St. George	597	656	59	—
St. John	479	535	56	—
St. Thomas	356	397	43	—
St. Joseph	389	388	—	1
St. Andrew	344	412	68	—
St. Lucy	379	417	38	—
St. Peter	417	489	72	—
St. James	382	405	23	—

The increase has been proportionately greatest in St. Andrew, least in St. Michael, including Bridgetown.

70. The proportion of baptisms of children born within the year has been greater in 1871 than in 1870, viz.:—

Baptisms of persons	1870.	1871.
Born in current year	70·6	73·3
„ preceding year	25·9	23·5
„ other years	3·5	3·2
	100	100

71. The number of marriages recorded is much greater, 757 instead of 620. If this increase does not arise from a defective record in 1870, and if it should continue in future years, it will in time restore, if it does not eventually reverse, the proportion of married to single persons at a marriageable age, which fell off considerably between 1861 and 1871. At these two dates the proportions of married, single, and widowed males and females above 15 years of age were as follows:—

	Males.		Females.	
	1861.	1871.	1861.	1871.
Single	58·9	61·8	59·9	63·2
Married	38·5	35·1	30·4	26·4
Widowed	2·6	3·1	9·7	10·3

72. The number of burials, taken from the same source, the parochial registers, in the last two years shows an increase from 3,486 to 3,858, equal to 10·6 per cent.

73. The following comparative abstract of the ages recorded shows that the increased mortality fell chiefly upon children under 10, and adults between 20 and 60:—

Ages.	Number.		Percentage.	
	1870.	1871.	1870.	1871.
Under 1 year	1,120	1,361	32·1	35·3
From 1 to 5	718	754	20·6	19·5
„ 5 „ 10	112	137	3·3	3·6
„ 10 „ 15	81	78	2·4	2
„ 15 „ 20	131	104	3·8	2·7
„ 20 „ 30	246	248	7·1	6·4
„ 30 „ 40	162	208	4·6	5·4
„ 40 „ 50	159	180	4·5	4·7
„ 50 „ 60	171	147	4·9	3·8
„ 60 „ 70	198	197	5·7	5·1
„ 70 „ 80	183	209	5·2	5·4
„ 80 „ 90	132	113	3·7	2·9
„ 90 „ 100	35	61	1·0	1·6
Above 100	10	14		
Not stated	28	32	1·1	1·6
Still born	Not stated	15		
	3,486	3,858	100	100

74. The following Table shows that in 1871 the mortality among children was much greater in the rural parishes than in St. Michael and Bridgetown, an inequality which did not exist in 1870; and that in both years there was a large excess in the mortality of persons between 15 and 60 in the town parish over that in the rural parishes, thus:—

	1870.		1871.	
	Town.	Country.	Town.	Country.
From birth to 5	52·4	52·9	47·9	58·5
„ 15 to 60	31·3	21·0	29·9	19·4

	1870.		1871.	
	St. Michael and Bridgetown.	Rural Districts.	St. Michael and Bridgetown.	Rural Districts.
Under 1 year - - - -	33·9	31·0	33·5	36·2
From 1 to 5 - - - -	18·5	21·9	14·4	22·3
„ 5 „ 10 - - - -	2·1	3·9	2·7	4
„ 10 „ 15 - - - -	2·1	2·5	2·6	1·7
„ 15 „ 20 - - - -	4·5	3·3	3·3	2·3
„ 20 „ 30 - - - -	8·9	6·0	7·2	6
„ 30 „ 40 - - - -	6·2	3·7	8·3	3·9
„ 40 „ 50 - - - -	5·4	4·	6·6	3·7
„ 50 „ 60 - - - -	6·3	4·	4·5	3·5
„ 60 „ 70 - - - -	4·6	6·3	7	4·1
„ 70 „ 80 - - - -	3·5	6·3	5·1	5·6
„ 80 „ 90 - - - -	2·7	4·5	2·7	3·1
„ 90 „ 100 - - - -	·5	1·4	1·1	1·8
Above 100 - - - -	·2	·3	1	1·7
Not distinguished - - -	·6	·9		
	100	100	100	100

75. The greater mortality among infants—children under one year of age—is further shown by comparing the proportion of burials in the two years to that of children baptized in the current and preceding years :—

PROPORTION OF BURIALS TO BAPTISMS.

	Of current year.	Of current and preceding year.
1870 - - -	23·8	15·1
1871 - - - -	26·0	19·5

11. *Education.*

76. The following information, condensed from a recent Report of the Inspector of Schools, gives a full, and, as regards progress, a satisfactory, account of the primary and infant schools for the poor up to the close of 1871.

77. Since the introduction into the primary schools of the system of paying teachers partly by results, three circuits of examination have been made, but neither of the first two was complete. The last embraced all the schools, and the results of the three examinations are tabulated in the following statement. The total number of schools at the last was 75, of which 53 belonged to the Church, 14 to the Wesleyans, and 8 to the Moravians. Their relation to the State is identical, their organization is the same, and their success tolerably equal.

	Number of Circuit.		
	1st.	2nd.	3rd.
Number of schools examined - - -	69	64	75

	Number of Circuit.		
	1st.	2nd.	3rd.
Reading Passes:—			
1st grade—Old Testament, well	902	962	1,398
2nd „ New „ moderately	1,092	1,216	1,366
3rd „ Independent monosyllables	1,068	1,061	993
	3,062	3,239	3,757
Dictation Passes:—			
1st grade—Hard passage from Old Testament	564	504	790
2nd „ Moderate passage from New Testament	707	892	1,036
3rd „ Monosyllables	894	1,010	905
	2,165	2,406	2,731
Arithmetic Passes:—			
1st grade—All the compound rules	495	439	601
2nd „ Ditto simple rules	419	546	636
3rd „ Simple addition	1,548	1,633	1,654
	2,462	2,618	2,891
Passes in catechetical religious knowledge	1,669	2,019	2,227
Passes in higher subjects:—			
Bible history	137	112	145
English history	31	38	59
Grammar	65	121	152
Geography	37	63	67
Higher arithmetic	53	57	92
Vocal music	20	16	19
	343	407	534
Attendance at examinations	5,481	5,526	6,170
Examinates	3,418	3,637	4,102
Premiums, amount of	$826 35c.	$898 25c.	$1,091 20c.
Eligible for examination in higher subjects	298	261	416

78. The comparison of the results is so uniformly in favour of the last circuit, that it leaves no reason to doubt the superiority of the present plan. It was foreseen in 1866 that the new system was likely for a few years—perhaps five—to give continuously improved returns; and now that the best masters, under strong stimulus, have attained all that is reasonably practicable, they must expect to have to exert a constant strain to maintain existing excellence, and to avoid a retrograde movement. There is, however, a large margin in many of the schools, as will be seen in the following abstract of the average premium obtained by the several schools at the last examination. Two deserve even in this Report, special notice: 1st, St. James', under the supervision of the Rector of the parish, Rev. P. Bruce

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Austin; 2nd, Sharon (Moravian), under that of the Superintendent of the Mission, Mr. J. Y. Edghill. The Inspector remarks justly, that the rate of premium is not always a just criterion of the merit of the teacher, as a master whose care is spread over 150 children cannot be expected to secure as great individual progress as another who may not have a third of the number of scholars. He further remarks that all the schools marking under 10 cents per child may be safely characterized as a discredit to the public service and to those concerned in their management, unless a change of teachers, or some exceptional circumstances, can be pleaded as an excuse:—

Number of Schools receiving.	Average premium per child.
	cents.
1	52·6
1	42·7
6	from 25 to 28
10	„ 20 „ 25
3	„ 19 „ 20
7	„ 18 „ 19
7	„ 17 „ 18
4	„ 16 „ 17
6	„ 15 „ 16
20	„ 10 „ 15
10	under 10
75	

79. The amount received by the first two of the above schools was $33 70c. and $29 10c. respectively. The highest amount received by any was the master of St. Patrick's School, with 238 scholars attending at the examination, and 170 examinates, who gained $65 80c.; 15 teachers received $20 and upwards, 34 received from $10 to $20, and the remaining 26 received less than $10—4 of them less than $4. The total sum distributed was $1,091 20c.

80. The number of children on the books, and in attendance at the schools, varies with the time of year; the second quarter, or crop-time being generally the most favourable; but from year to year the number is found to increase, provided nothing of an exceptional character interferes to prevent it. By a return lately prepared, the number in average attendance at the primary schools was 5,074, and at the infant schools 3,388, giving together an average attendance of 8,462; while the primary school registers bore the names of 7,822 pupils, and those of the infant schools 5,499; total, 13,321. Taking the Treasury expenditure on these children at 4,000*l.* a year, the individual cost is 6*s.* In Demerara it was some time since $6.

81. The first examinations of the infant schools held with a view to making the future grants to the teachers depend partly on the results of their teaching, as is the case in the primary schools, were held in 1868–9. No second circuit has yet been made, but regular circuits will be held in future. There are 68 schools of this class, of which 61 belong to the Church of England, and 7 to the Moravians.

The Wesleyans have none. The following Table corresponds with that for the primary schools :—

Number of schools examined	68
Reading Passes :—	
1st grade—Old Testament, well	399
2nd „ New „ moderately	486
3rd „ Independent monosyllables	647
Total	1,532
Dictation Passes :—	
1st grade—Hard passage from Old Testament	115
2nd „ Moderate, from New Testament	195
3rd „ Monosyllables	377
Total	687
Arithmetic Passes :—	
1st grade—All the compound rules	26
2nd „ Ditto simple rules	69
3rd „ Simple addition	480
Total	575
Passes in catechetical religious knowledge	710
Passes in higher subjects :—	
Bible history	3
Higher arithmetic	1
Total	4
Attendance at examinations	3,674
Examinates	1,855
Premiums, amount of	$267·30
Eligible for examination in higher subjects	20

82. Among the 3,674 children, there were about 400 more girls than boys, which is attributed to the desire of parents to keep their girls at these schools, where only very young boys are allowed to attend with them. The opinion formed by the Inspector of the results of this first examination is, that "the reading result is pleasing, the dictation hardly creditable, and the ciphering unsatisfactory." He looks forward to much improvement after the new system for rewarding the teachers shall have come into fair operation.

83. The average premiums gained were

In 1 school	16·
1 „	15·6
10 schools	from 10 to 13
37 „	„ 5 „ 10
19 „	under 5
68	

84. Much has been done by the Legislature and the Education Committee to encourage the education of the middling classes. Harrison's School, in Bridgetown, founded upon a small endowment

many years ago, had sunk into disrepute. The Codrington College Grammar School was rapidly falling off in numbers. Towards the close of 1870, 600*l.* a year for ten years was granted as an endowment to the former. An equal sum was granted in aid of the purchase of a suitable school-house, and 900*l.* was loaned to the Trustees to effect the purchase. During the past year a further sum of 400*l.* a year was granted for the purpose of securing an adequate salary to a first-class Head Master.

85. The Codrington College Grammar School has received a grant of 600*l.* a year for five years in aid of its funds, the insufficiency of which had led to its gradual failure, while in charge of a very competent and much-respected master.

86. The chief manner of aiding adopted with regard to both these schools has been the establishment of Scholarships, to be obtained by competition, which relieve parents from two-thirds, or thereabouts, of the ordinary charge for tuition. The Act provides that "the curriculum for Harrison's School shall provide for a sound and liberal education, embracing, in addition to the classics, a knowledge of the French and German, when practicable, and the elements of Natural Philosophy;" and with regard to the Codrington College Grammar School, that "there shall be afforded to the Public Exhibitioners a deep and sound education, both religious and secular, as a practical training for business, as an adequate education for the great competitive examinations, especially those for Woolwich, and for all branches of the Indian Civil Service, and as a really scholarlike preparation for further instruction at Codrington College, or the Universities of the United Kingdom." The record of the successful operation of these measures on the part of the Legislature belongs rather to next year's Report. But I may be allowed to anticipate it so far as to note its existence.

12. *Gaols and Crime.*

87. The number of committals in 1870 was nearly 1,000 less than in 1869, viz. 3,388 instead of 4,333. The number was further reduced in 1871 to 3,139. The new system of disciplinary punishment, by means of the treadwheel and shot drill in the principal convict prison at Glendairy, and of shot drill in all the other male prisons, continues to operate advantageously, although it has deprived the Molehead Board of a supply of convict labour for the Dredge and Harbour Works.

13. *Trade and Shipping.*

88. The returns of the last three years admit of a reliable comparison.

TOTAL VALUE OF IMPORTS.

	£
In 1869	1,026,220
„ 1870	1,069,867
„ 1871	1,191,888

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS.

	£
In 1869	935,424
„ 1870	973,020
„ 1871	1,298,546

89. The increase of exports in 1871, and the corresponding increase of imports, are both attributable to the large sugar crop of that year. This is exhibited in the following statement:—

QUANTITIES AND VALUE OF MUSCOVADO SUGAR EXPORTED.

	Quantities.	Value.
	Hhds.	£
In 1869	32,150	479,550
„ 1870	39,466	591,990
„ 1871	53,788	806,820

As the valuation has been taken at the uniform rate of 15*l.* a hogshead in each year, it does not represent the real market value, which I would not venture to estimate, looking to the differences in the British and American markets.

90. The destination of the sugar in the two years has been:—

	1870.	1871.
	Hhds.	Hhds.
United Kingdom	35,047	39,682
United States	2,302	8,550
British North America	1,962	5,449
„ West Indies	155	107

91. The "offal crop" exported has been correspondingly large:—

VALUE OF EXPORTS.

	Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.	Proportion of Molasses and Rum to Sugar.
	£	£	£	
1869	479,550	160,569	1,244	33
1870	591,790	98,406	4,063	17
1871	806,820	155,637	3,659	19

92. The only other exports of native produce, trifling in value, but interesting to notice, were:—

	Value.
	£
Aloes	1,046
Arrowroot	76
Cattle	206
Cotton	2,789
„ seed	150
Fruit and vegetables	881
Groceries (succades and pickles)	296
Hides and skins	692
Lime for building	4,678
Petroleum	893
Sheep	42
Soda and mineral waters	2
Tamarinds	332
Total	£12,093

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93. The transit trade of goods re-exported shows a further large increase, amounting to 18 per cent.:—

	£
In 1869	287,444
„ 1870	270,599
„ 1871	319,429

94. The direction both of the import and export trade varied considerably in 1871:—

IMPORTS.

	Value.		Percentage.	
	1870.	1871.	1870.	1871.
	£	£		
From United Kingdom	413,908	546,396	38·7	46
„ British Colonies	151,252	149,090	14·1	12·5
„ Foreign Countries	504,706	496,401	47·2	41·5
	£1,069,867	£1,191,888	100	100

The imports from the United Kingdom were considerably larger in amount, and in proportion; from British Colonies slightly smaller; and from foreign countries the falling off was greater.

EXPORTS.

	Value.		Percentage.	
	1870.	1871.	1870.	1871.
	£	£		
To United Kingdom	544,455	609,869	55·9	47·1
„ British Colonies	295,031	415,278	30·2	32
„ Foreign Countries	133,533	273,398	13·9	20·9
Total	£973,020	£1,298,546	100	100

95. The increased amount and proportion of exports to the United States arose from shipments of sugar and molasses, shown in the following statement:—

EXPORTS OF NATIVE PRODUCE.

	1870.	1871.
	£	£
Sugar:—		
To United Kingdom	525,705	595,230
„ United States	34,530	128,250
„ British North America	29,430	81,727
„ „ West Indies	2,325	1,612
Molasses:—		
To United Kingdom	135	3,015
„ United States	63,261	94,432
„ British North America	34,843	58,059
„ „ West Indies	54	130
„ Foreign West Indies	112	—
Rum:—		
To United Kingdom	3,737	3,215
„ British North America	325	415
„ „ West Indies	—	29

Shipping.

96. The returns of shipping in 1870 and 1871 having been correctly made, admit of comparison. They show a satisfactory increase. Of vessels entered there were:—

	No.		Tonnage.		Average size.	
	1870.	1871.	1870.	1871.	1870.	1871.
British - -	1,025	1,071	97,442	104,962	95	98
Foreign - - -	236	256	41,093	43,799	174	171
Total - -	1,261	1,327	138,535	148,761	110*	112

* Incorrectly stated last year at 269.

The increase in the total number of vessels has been above 5 per cent., and in the tonnage 7·5 per cent., the increase being equally distributed over the British and foreign.

97. The number of vessels arriving in ballast was somewhat greater, but their tonnage was less in 1871 than in the preceding year, viz.:—

	1870.		1871.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British - - - - -	104	13,866	107	11,396
Foreign - - - - -	17	808	22	2,325
Total - - - -	121	14,674	129	13,721

98. The increase of vessels and tonnage was thus distributed:—

ENTERED.

	1870.		1871.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
From W. Indies and Guiana:—				
British - - - -	777	39,055	802	41,193
Foreign - - - - -	73	3,389	96	5,568
From other Countries:—				
British - - - -	247	58,285	268	63,667
Foreign - - - - -	146	35,628	152	37,233
Whalers - - - -	18	2,178	9	1,100

The average size of the vessels in each branch was about the same in both years.

99. The increase in the trade in foreign vessels with the West Indies is more strongly marked in the vessels cleared:—

CLEARED.

	1870.		1871.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
To West Indies and British Guiana:—				
British - - - - -	875	57,970	878	57,481
Foreign - - - - -	180	30,727	200	48,072
To other Countries:—				
British - - - - -	152	39,982	197	31,235
Foreign - - - - -	43	9,392	47	10,860
Whalers - - - - -	16	1,911	8	998
	1,266	139,982	1,330	148,646

100. Twenty more vessels, chiefly of the United States, amounting to 9,345 more tons, and averaging 240, instead of 170, tons, have cleared from Barbados, chiefly to British Guiana, in the past year. There is a further difference, while the number of British vessels clearing for other foreign countries has increased from 152 to 197, their tonnage has only averaged 159 instead of 263. The tonnage of the foreign vessels has not varied much. The whalers, entering and clearing, have diminished by one-half. The visits of this class of vessels depend chiefly upon the presence of the fish in the neighbouring waters. But the passing of an Act in 1871 to facilitate the recovery of their deserters ashore will encourage their visits henceforward.

101. There are marked differences in the two years between the proportion of tonnage which entered and cleared, with cargoes and in ballast, which are doubly satisfactory as regards the reduced proportion of tonnage in ballast, and the increased relative proportion in British tonnage with cargoes.

ARRIVED.

	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.	
	1870.	1871.	1870.	1871.
British - - -	85·8	89·1	14·2	10·9
Foreign - - -	98·1	94·7	1·9	5·3
CLEARED.				
British - - -	78·0	88·4	22·0	11·6
Foreign - - -	44·0	64·2	56·0	35·8

102. Of the total tonnage arriving in each year the percentage proportion arriving from each country was about:—

	1870.	1871.		1870.	1871.
United States - -	23	26	Peru - - -	5	4
„ Kingdom - -	17	23	Foreign West Indies	3	4
British West Indies -	16	17	All other Countries -	11	2
„ North America	10	11			
„ Guiana - -	10	9	Total - -	100	100
Buenos Ayres - -	5	4			

103. A similar statement of the tonnage cleared shows the following results:—

	1870.	1871.		1870.	1871.
British W. Indies about	28	29	British N. America -	6	8
Foreign „ - -	27	21	Other Countries - -	3	1
United Kingdom - -	19	20			
„ States - - -	9	12	Total - -	100	100
British Guiana - -	8	9			

104. There was not much difference in the number and tonnage of vessels entering in ballast in 1871, but there was a large decrease in the number and tonnage of those clearing in ballast, viz.:—

	1870.		1871.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - - -	121	14,674	129	13,721
Cleared - - -	209	44,948	138	27,722

105. The proportion of the tonnage belonging to each nation was about the same as in 1870, viz.:—

British - - -	70	100 per cent.
American - - -	21	
French - - -	4	
Other - - -	5	

14. *Sugar Estates.*

106. The following information, although accessible in a detailed form to a large number of the inhabitants of the Island, will probably be new, in the form now presented, to most, and will serve to show the divisions of the land in the different parishes, and to afford the means of comparison with other sugar-producing Colonies. The data are extracted from Bayley's Almanac for 1850, and Bowen's Almanac for 1872, both reliable publications, and they correspond so closely as to serve as checks upon one another.

107. The number and average size in acres of sugar estates, i. e. estates with works on them, were in 1850 and 1871 as follows:—

	1850.		1871.	
	No.	Size.	No.	Size.
St. Michael - - -	45	150	43	163
Christ Church - - -	63	181	59	194
St. Philip - - -	54	223	59	206
St. George - - -	62	150	58	160
St. John - - -	39	232	36	238
St. Thomas - - -	57	145	54	155
St. Joseph - - -	45	109	40	132
St. Andrew - - -	24	275	28	251
St. Lucy - - -	43	156	40	165
St. Peter - - - -	44	184	44	184
St. James - - -	23	227	32	228
Total - - -	509	—	493	—
Average - - -	—	178	—	185

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108. The number of estates has decreased by 16 in the twenty-one years. There has been somewhat more than a corresponding increase in the size. The average has only been 7 acres. The total increase has been 603 acres.

109. The largest and smallest area of any estate in each parish at the two periods are shown in the following Table. There is a general diminution in the size of the smallest works, which may be accounted for by their erection for the purpose of pressing the canes of neighbouring estates, or of petty proprietors. Some of the largest estates remain unchanged; others are increased or reduced in size.

	1850.		1871.	
	Largest.	Smallest.	Largest.	Smallest.
St. Michael - - -	621	10	621	8
Christ Church - - -	522	9	880*	7
St. Philip - - -	724	14	725	5
St. George - - -	879	10	879	5
St. John - - -	774	11	751	7
St. Thomas - - -	575	10	582	4
St. Joseph - - -	554	5	554	2
St. Andrew - - -	860	19	708	7
St. Lucy - - -	528	15	581	9
St. Peter - - - -	635	12	635	40
St. James - - -	620	23	532	20

* Briggs, Dayrells, and Searles united.

110. The next Table gives a general view of the size of the estates in 1871:—

	Number of Sugar Estates in the Island.	
Not above 10 acres - - -	24	
From 10 to 50 - - - -	106	193
50 „ 100 - - -	63	
100 „ 200 - - - -	100	
200 „ 300 - - -	82	182
300 „ 400 - - - -	64	
400 „ 500 - - -	35	
500 „ 600 - - - -	11	
600 „ 700 - - -	2	118
700 „ 800 - - - -	3	
800 „ 900 - - -	2	
Not stated - - - -	1	
	493	

111. A further Table shows the number of small, middling, and (for this Island) large estates in each parish in 1871:—

NUMBER OF SUGAR ESTATES IN EACH PARISH.

	Under 100 Acres.	From 100 to 500 Acres.	Above 500 Acres.		Under 100 Acres.	From 100 to 500 Acres.	Above 500 Acres.
St. Michael -	20	20	3	St. Andrew -	16	19	3
Christ Church	20	38	1	St. Lucy - -	17	21	2
St. Philip - -	23	34	2	St. Peter -	17	26	1
St. George -	24	33	1	St. James -	7	24	1
St. John - -	11	23	2				
St. Thomas -	25	27	2	Total -	193	281	19
St. Joseph- -	23	16	1				

112. The following Table shows the total area of each parish, the area of sugar estates in each in 1871, and the remainder, of which, however, a greater or less portion is cultivated in canes which are pressed at neighbouring works :—

	Total Area.	Area of Sugar Estates in 1871.	Remainder.
	acres.	acres.	acres.
St. Michael - - -	9,580	7,038	2,542
Christ Church - - -	14,310	11,485	2,825
St. Philip - - -	15,040	12,146	2,894
St. George - - -	10,795	9,307	1,488
St. John - - -	8,600	8,478	122
St. Thomas - - -	8,500	8,391	109
St. Joseph - - -	6,010	5,304	706
St. Andrew - - -	8,780	7,034	1,746
St. Lucy - - -	8,725	6,622	2,103
St. Peter - - - -	8,330	8,129	201
St. James - - -	7,800	7,316	484
Total - - - -	106,470	91,250	15,220

15. *Sugar Crops.*

113. It has never been contested that the quantity of the sugar crop depends mainly upon the rainfall of the preceding year; but the regularity of this influence, and the means which it affords of estimating the crop of a coming season are only beginning to be appreciated. It is desirable that the ground of this estimate should be shown, together with the fact that during the years 1871–2 the yield in proportion to the rainfall has increased, indicating either an increased area of cultivation, or improved processes, or greater care in the cultivation and manufacture, or both.

114. The following statement shows the last four good and four bad crops, with the rainfall of the preceding years, and the number of hogsheads to the inch of rain :—

Years.	Rainfall of Year preceding.	Good Crops.	Bad Crops.	Hhds. to an inch of Rain.
	inches.	hhds.	hhds.	hhds.
1864 - - -	42·38	—	36,199	854
1865 - - -	59·19	—	46,068	778
1866 - - -	68·69	57,188	—	833
1867 - - -	59·68	51,304	—	855
1868 - - -	69·93	58,250	—	832
1869 - - -	44·60	—	32,150	720
1870 - - -	48·52	—	39,466	813
1871 - - -	60·17	53,788	—	893
	Average	55,132	38,470	
		46,800		

115. The average of the seven years, 1864–70, was 812 hogsheads to an inch. In 1871 it was 893. It had only once been nearly the same, viz. in 1859, when the yield was 886 hogsheads. The present year, however, has advanced considerably beyond this. The rainfall of 1871 was 41·46 inches. The expected crop is 39,000 hogsheads, which gives a yield of 940 hogsheads to the inch. It remains to be

seen whether this is altogether exceptional, or whether a higher average must be taken in future.

116. It is supposed by some persons that the rainfall of the last six months of the year has the greatest influence upon the crop of the ensuing year. If so, it ought to be a closer measure of that crop than the rainfall of the twelve preceding months. But such is not the case, as is shown in the following statement:—

	Calculation on Rainfall of 12 Months.		Calculation on Rainfall of 6 Months.		
	Rainfall.	Variation from Average of 812 Hhds.	Rainfall.	Hhds. to an inch of Rain.	Variation from Average of 1,182 Hhds.*
	inches.	per cent.	inches.	hhds.	per cent.
1864 - -	42·38	+ 5·0	30·59	1,183	Average
1865 - - -	59·19	— 4·3	47·26	975	— 17·5
1866 - -	68·69	+ 2·4	43·44	1,316	+ 11·3
1867 - - -	59·68	+ 5·1	44·98	1,140	— 3·5
1868 - -	69·93	+ 2·3	46·59	1,250	+ 6·6
1869 - - -	44·60	— 11·4	30·53	1,053	— 10·9
1870 - -	48·52	Average	33·78	1,169	— 1
1871 - - -	60·17	+ 9·8	39·25	1,370	+ 15·9

* These averages are framed upon the years 1864–70, the year 1871 being omitted on account of its being largely in excess of the average, and apparently the commencement of a new scale.

117. Another way of comparing these two measures, and of testing the principle of the strict dependence of the produce upon the rainfall, is, by eliminating the two exceptional years, 1865 and 1869, in both of which the yield fell considerably short of the average. This comparison is rather more favourable to the measure of the latter (six months) rains, but confirms the superiority of the former:—

	12 Months.	6 Months.
	Hhds.	Hhds.
Average - - -	843 -	1,283
1864 - - - -	854 -	1,183
1866 - - -	833 -	1,316
1867 - - - -	855 -	1,140
1868 - - -	832 -	1,250
1870 - - - -	813 -	1,169

The most experienced planter, walking through every field of cane in the Island, could not measure the crop so accurately as this calculation, drawn from the rainfall of the preceding twelve months.

16. *Water Supply.*

118. In natural, and close and very important connection with the supply of rain for the cane-fields, is the supply of water for the consumption of the population, for it is beyond controversy that the Island is dependent upon the rainfall for its supply of water. I have elsewhere shown how the natural increase of the population of the Island is rapidly surpassing the means which it provides within its own area for their support. I have had occasion to point out to the Legislature how, partly through climatic changes, and partly through

the increase of the population, and the decrease of the sources of their water supply, the latter is rapidly becoming unequal to the wants of the people—a hardship and a danger exceeding those arising from a failure of crops, or from a diminution in the supply of solid food. The facts are of sufficient importance and general interest, to justify their insertion in this Report.

119. The four driest, and as regards the supply of water, the most critical, months of the year are February to May. January is even drier than May, but it comes at the beginning of the dry season, after the rainy months of the preceding half-year, and its influence is less felt than that of May, coming at the end of the dry season. The average of the rainfall in these five months during the 25 years from 1847 to 1871 was

January - - - -	3·26 inches
February - - - -	2·58 „
March - - - -	1·47 „
April - - - - -	1·99 „
May - - - - -	3·54 „

making an aggregate of 12·84 inches against 44·90 in the other seven months.

120. Taking the supply of rain in the four months of the above period, it appears that there has been a very serious diminution in the last ten years, and a still greater in the last three years.

RAINFALL OF FOUR MONTHS—FEBRUARY TO MAY.

Average of 10 years - - -	1848–57 -	12·07 inches.
„ „ „ - - -	1863–72 -	8·38 „
„ 3 „ - - -	1870–72 -	5·62 „

121. It is equally striking that, during the last 16 years, this critical season is divided into four equal periods, of which the first year has been a wet one, and the next three years have been dry, the last manifesting less rain in the wet year, and a severer drought in the dry years.

RAINFALL OF FOUR MONTHS—FEBRUARY TO MAY.

Years.	Inches.	Inches.
1857 - - - - - -	11·95 -	—
Average of 1858–60 - - -	— -	7·19
1861 - - - - - -	19·08 -	—
Average of 1862–64 - - -	— -	7·30
1865 - - - - - -	12·60 -	—
Average of 1866–68 - - -	— -	8·60
1869 - - - - - -	10·16 -	—
Average of 1870–72 - - -	— -	5·62

According to this calculation, the year 1873 ought to be a wet one, and this is confirmed by an examination of the years following those which most resemble the present one.

122. There is every reason to believe that the attention of the Legislature is fully alive to the urgency of this important question, and that early steps will be taken to ascertain, if not how the supply

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from the clouds may be increased, as by planting, which in this Island is a question full of difficulties, yet how it may be economized, as by the erection of dams and tanks, and how it may be restored to use after it shall have sunk below the surface, and become accumulated in Nature's subterranean cisterns.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RAWSON W. RAWSON,
Governor.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

[S. J.]

ST. VINCENT.

ST. VINCENT.

No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor RENNIE to Governor RAWSON, C.B.

Government House, St. Vincent,
April 5, 1872.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the past year, and your Excellency will perceive from the date of this Report that the Earl of Kimberley's instructions as to the early preparation of the returns have been carried out.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

2. Taxation remained the same as during the preceding year, but certain fees received by the Lieutenant-Governor, and by the Colonial Secretary, who was also Registrar of the Courts of Justice, for their own uses, were made payable into the treasury, and in the latter case a registrar was appointed with a fixed salary.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The revenue of 1871 was the largest raised for many years; probably the largest ever raised in the Colony. It amounted to a total of 31,921*l.*, exclusive of 707*l.* raised for the service of the town of Kingstown.

4. This total is made up of ordinary receipts, of receipts under Troops Tax Acts, and receipts for immigration purposes, exclusive of payments direct from employers and by immigrants. Customs receipts form the chief item of increase. The following is a comparison of the collections under the different heads for the past three years:—

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	£	£	£
Ordinary revenue - -	23,509	22,366	24,154
Troops taxes - - -	5,641	5,609	5,996
Immigration - - -	1,561	1,734	1,771
Total - - -	£30,711	£29,709	£31,921
Kingstown revenue -	£575	£733	£707

5. The expenditure of the year for ordinary purposes, including a grant of 885*l.* in aid of immigration, amounted to 21,696*l.*, and for

troops to 4,328*l.* The excess of receipts under the Troops Tax Acts being carried to general revenue accounts, the balance to the credit of the general revenue was increased by 4,126*l.*

6. The immigration expenditure exceeded its receipts by 1,697*l.*, and the town of Kingstown expended 4,153*l.* in the construction of waterworks. Both these sums have been advanced from the general revenue balances, and the cash in hand at the end of the year was therefore rather less than it was at the beginning.

7. The colonial expenditure for ordinary purposes and for troops has been for the last three years,—

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	£	£	£
Ordinary expenditure -	19,222	21,793	21,696
Troops „ -	7,459	5,055	4,328
Total - -	£26,688	£26,848	£26,024

And the statement of assets and liabilities on the 1st of January of the present year gives the general revenue an excess of assets of 11,990*l.*, viz.:—

Assets.	£	Liabilities.	£
Cash balances - - -	6,850	Due to depositors in Savings Bank - - - - -	1,589
Advances to town for Waterworks - - - - -	4,153	Due to other Accounts - -	558
Ditto to Immigration Fund -	2,934	Surplus of Assets - - -	11,990
Ditto to Commissioners of Ordnance Lands - -	200		
Total - - -	£14,137	Total - - -	£14,137

Public Works and Roads.

8. Very little expenditure has been incurred on these services for some years, and the consequence is that the greater part of the public buildings are in a ruinous condition, the streams are without bridges, and the roads in an almost impassable state during the wet weather. Efforts to remedy this state of affairs are being made, and during 1871 new gaol buildings (a part of a larger scheme) were erected at a cost of 900*l.*; 300*l.* were laid out on repairs to the Governor's residence, and 250*l.* expended on new furniture; a small portion of the Leeward road was re-made, and arrangements entered into for carrying out more extensive improvements in the Windward road during 1872. Works for supplying the town of Kingstown with water were pushed on, and pipes laid through the greater part of the town.

9. The charges for public works and roads have been during the last three years,—

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	£	£	£
Public Works - - -	627	707	1,893
Roads, Streets, and Bridges -	1,139	1,333	1,229
Total	£1,766	£2,040	£3,122

And in the latter year there was a further expenditure by the town of Kingstown of over 4,000*l.* on waterworks. The total cost of the

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water supply is not expected to exceed 7,000*l.*, and the works will be completed during 1872.

10. The laying of the telegraphic cable, though not carried out by the Government, is fostered by it by means of a subsidy. This important undertaking was successfully accomplished in August by the landing of three cables; one for St. Lucia and the Northern Islands; a second for Grenada, Trinidad, and British Guiana; and a third for Barbados. St. Vincent has thus become the centre of communication for messages to and from Barbados.

11. A Report on the state of repair of the Governor's residence, and a list of the public furniture contained therein, is appended.*

* Not printed.

Legislation.

12. Eleven Acts were passed during the year, which are specified under the proper heading in the Blue Book. The only one to which I wish to draw attention here is the Act for providing medical attendance for the labouring classes and for immigrants.

13. This measure is important. It provides that the Island shall be divided into five medical districts, in each of which a medical man paid by the Government shall reside. The duties of the district doctors will consist principally in attending gratuitously indentured immigrants, labourers over sixty years of age, and the children of the labouring classes under eight years of age. Employers of immigrants must pay to the Treasury in aid 12*s.* 6*d.* a head for the indentured immigrants in their employ. Under this Act three new doctors have been imported, which just doubles the number of those previously in the Island.

Political Franchise.

14. The three years' term of duration of the second Assembly under the Constitution Act, 1868, would have expired in September last, but the Assembly was dissolved by proclamation some weeks previously, in order to give time for a few sittings of the House prior to the usual recess, which commences on the 1st of October.

15. Elections for the choice of the six elective members were held at the end of August and beginning of September. A poll is taken under the Election Act, 1867, whether there is any opposition or not, and 121 electors voted in the several electoral districts, out of 372 enrolled. There was no contest at any of the elections, and in some cases the candidates did not even present themselves to the electors.

16. In the Windward district a gentleman, though residing on the spot, was elected without his knowledge, no other person's name having apparently occurred to the electors. This gentleman was unable to serve, as he had just accepted one of the district medical appointments.

Census and Population.

17. A census of the islands comprised in the Government was taken on the 9th of April, and the population found to consist of,—

Europeans.	Africans.	Asiatics.	Caribs.	Mixed.	Total.
2,344	24,707	1,485	431	6,721	35,688

of which 16,865 were males and 18,823 females.

18. These figures give an increase of 3,933 over the population of 1861, but as during the ten years some 1,500 immigrants were introduced from India, the natural increase of the population only appears to have been 2,500, or something less than 8 per cent. The census of 1861, however, was taken in October, and the present one in April. This is estimated to make a difference, because many persons of the labouring class migrate from the Grenadines to Trinidad during the crop season, and return to their homes in August or September. Allowing for these, the increase may be considered as about 10%.

19. It is worthy of notice that notwithstanding a considerable excess of male births, and the importation of fully 600 more males than females, the population has increased by 2,073 females against only 1,860 males. The record of deaths kept by the Registrar-General bears out these figures by showing that the mortality of the male portion of the population exceeds that of the female in almost every stage of life.

20. The Registrar-General's returns for the year give the births, exclusive of still-births, as 1,692 or 47 per thousand, and the deaths as 1,020 or 28 per thousand. These figures are rather more favourable than those of the previous year, that is to say, the births are in excess and the deaths less. In the Blue Book the numbers are given as

	1870.	1871.
Births - - -	1,738	1,780
Deaths - - -	1,149	1,108

but in these, still births are included as both births and deaths. Marriages show a slight increase, though not much more than is accounted for by the larger population. Illegitimate births still maintain the large proportion of about 56%.

Ecclesiastical.

21. No actual change occurred in the Ecclesiastical Establishments during the year, but a scheme was framed for carrying out a system of equal concurrent endowment, based on the relative numerical proportions of the members of the different forms of Christian worship. This scheme, which devotes a sum equal to about one-tenth of the ordinary revenue to religious purposes, was approved by the Earl of Kimberley, and by the House of Assembly, and votes were taken in the Estimates of 1872 for paying to the Wesleyans 650*l.*, and to the Roman Catholics 100*l.*, being annual allowances, to be gradually increased as the payments to the Anglican clergy diminish, until at length each denomination will receive its own proportionate share of the grant.

Education.

22. The educational returns give the number of scholars as 3,318 in 1871 against 3,261 in 1870, and 3,140 in 1869. This would seem to indicate that education was keeping pace with the increase of population, but I cannot view these returns as of much value. The number of scholars on the books has no reference to the instruction imparted, and certainly not more than half the number indicated above can be considered as regular attendants. Many of the children

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have their names on the books of both the Anglican and Wesleyan schools, going to the one or the other as the master may be more or less exacting in the matter of fees.

23. No better test of the estimation in which education is held by the lower classes can be given than that of their willingness to pay for it, and as the school fees are fixed at only 2*d.* a week, most persons could pay them if they valued their children's education sufficiently to do an occasional day's labour. Judging by this test the desire for education is not increasing, as the school fees received in 1871 were in the aggregate somewhat less than in the preceding year. The school examinations at Christmas did not impress me favourably.

24. Measures are being taken for altering the mode of giving legislative aid for education, and an inspector of schools is about to be appointed.

Imports and Exports.

25. The imports amounted in value to 157,337*l.*, which is the largest importation for many years, except that of 1866. As compared with 1870 the increase is nearly 20,000*l.*, and this increase is derivable entirely from the direct trade with Great Britain. The following Table gives a comparison of the imports and exports for 1870 and 1871 :—

	Imports from		Exports to	
	1870.	1871.	1870.	1870.
	£	£	£	£
Great Britain - - - -	56,175	75,058	201,875	239,738
British West Indies - - -	74,253	69,681	13,141	8,564
British North America - -	3,755	4,545	2,750	3,606
United States - - - -	1,219	4,383	1,126	2,614
Other countries - - - -	2,072	3,675	2,247	1,453
£	137,474	157,337	221,139	255,975

26. The total exports of the year were valued at 255,975*l.* against 221,139*l.* in 1870, but this large increase is attributable rather to the higher prices the sugar realized than to any great addition to the quantity. The sugar of 1871 has been valued at 15*l.* a hogshead, whereas that of the previous year was taken at 12*l.* 10*s.* per hogshead.

27. The following Table gives a comparison of the exported produce of the Colony during each of the last ten years :—

	Sugar.	Rum.	Molasses.	Arrowroot.
	hogsheads.	puncheons.	puncheons.	barrels.
1862	8,503	1,827	305	5,490
1863	8,756	1,554	409	7,609
1864	8,163	1,284	1,418	7,032
1865	8,454	1,794	916	12,228
1866	10,984	1,796	1,063	10,407
1867	11,137	1,683	1,209	12,011
1868	11,248	1,634	1,359	11,801
1869	11,164	358	3,783	11,245
1870	12,948	2,155	1,638	10,379
1871	13,315	2,656	953	10,894

Agriculture.

28. No addditional land was brought into cultivation, but by more attention to cleaning the canes, and a greater use of manures, a rather larger yield per acre was obtained. The constant supply of labour maintained on those estates on which Coolies are employed, gives great facilities for attending to the young crops, and there can be but little doubt that the cultivation on the Coolie employing estates is usually higher than on those worked simply by Creoles. Wages still continue nominally at the low rate of from 8*d.* to 1*s.* per day, but it is very difficult to induce the Creoles to work on day's wages at all. When willing to work they prefer task work, or perhaps contracting to look after a specified portion of a cane-field.

Immigration.

29. Three hundred and twenty-three immigrants arrived from Calcutta in the 'Dover Castle' at the end of June. They are a fine set of people, but they unfortunately arrived here, after a long voyage, just at the commencement of the wet season. Several cases of diarrhœa and dysentery occurred, and twelve of the number died in the six months. This gives a proportionate rate of 7½ per cent. per annum; but, judging from previous importations, the mortality of the next six months will greatly decrease this rate for the whole year. The health of the Coolies in St. Vincent is, as a rule, extraordinarily good; and the average mortality, taking new comers and those more seasoned, is not more than twenty-seven per thousand per annum, or a less rate than that of the Colony at large.

Sanitary.

30. The health of the Colony has been very good, and notwithstanding a slight increase of fever cases in Kingstown, occasioned probably by the opening of the streets for the purpose of laying the water-pipes, the mortality of the year has been considerably below the average.

31. The outbreak of small-pox in Trinidad occasioned considerable anxiety; but by a rigorous quarantine the importation of the disease has been avoided. Precautionary measures, more especially vaccination, have not been neglected.

32. The hospital returns show that there were 206 admissions, with twenty remaining in hospital on the 1st January, 1871. Out of this total the deaths were twenty, or under 10 per cent. The daily average of patients was twenty-one. The most prevalent diseases were fever and phthisis, and in this latter class the mortality was highest, death carrying off no less than seven out of eleven cases.

33. Some parts of the hospital will require renewal if the present buildings are to be used as a permanency, but there is a project under discussion for removing the hospital to more commodious premises at a short distance from town.

Gaols and Prisoners.

34. These returns present in every respect favourable features. The committals during the year were only 326, against 379 in 1870, and

ST. VINCENT.

the punishments for offences in the gaol were only twenty-one, as against forty-four in 1870. More than a third of the committals were merely for debt, and a large proportion of the remaining offenders had not come under the cognizance of the law for more serious offences than drunkenness or breaches of contracts.

35. A treadwheel has been erected in the gaol yard, but it is but seldom that a sufficient supply of prisoners liable to the wheel, and physically fit for it, can be found to keep it going. As a substitute, shot-drill has been introduced, and as this can be worked by a smaller number or a greater number, as men may be available, it is found better adapted to the requirements of such a prison as the one in Kingstown.

36. The health of the prisoners in gaol is remarkably good. In 1870 there was only one death, that of a man who was executed; and in 1871 the only death was that of a poor lunatic woman, who had been gradually wasting away.

Rainfall.

37. The year 1871 was a more than usually wet one. The observations of the rainfall in the lower parts of the Island give an average of upwards of 90 inches, and at the Governor's residence, in the Kingstown Valley, the fall amounted to 118 inches.

38. Heavy rainfalls do not bring the same advantage to the crops in St. Vincent as in Barbados, and the yield for 1872 has not apparently been favourably affected by the excessive wetness of the previous season.

Conclusion.

39. From the foregoing remarks it will be seen that in nearly every particular required for the Blue Book returns, the Colony has been making considerable progress; and some items, such as the increased Customs receipts, point even to an advance in material prosperity. The poverty of the people, however, remains very great, and I cannot see anything in the present aspect of affairs likely to improve their condition.

40. Sugar-cultivation, carried on in great part by imported labourers (who hoard their earnings) for the benefit of absentee proprietors, or proprietors who do not keep their profits circulating in the Colony, is not an industry which does much good to the Colony at large. It may be of use to some few persons connected with the planting interest, and adds to general trade, but when it is considered that the increased productions of the cane-fields bear a definite proportion to the supply of labour introduced, and that the 5,000 hogsheads of sugar exported in 1871 in excess of those in 1862 represent as nearly as possible the 1,800 immigrants introduced during that period, the advantage of the increase to the Colony is not so great as it would at first sight appear.

41. The native population has increased, but no increased supply of native labour has been obtained. It was supposed that the introduction of Coolies would, by affording competition, stimulate the

Creoles to work, but it has not been so. The Coolies have produced more sugar, and the native labour has remained stationary.

42. The labour question in St. Vincent presents peculiar difficulties. It is not like in Trinidad, where the native population is insufficient; or like in British Guiana, where the native population is both insufficient and of a character not suited to much work; nor is it like that in the neighbouring islands of Grenada and St. Lucia, where there are fewer large estates, and the native population work the soil, badly enough perhaps, for their own profit. Here the natives are sufficient in number for the culture of the land in cultivation, strong, and adapted for work, but they prefer living on the easily-raised products and the food-producing trees of the island, with an occasional day's work in crop season, to anything like steady labour.

43. Whether this indifference to money, and to the comforts which money brings, is so implanted in the race that it cannot be eradicated, or whether the planters have never taken the right steps to eradicate it, I cannot say; but certain it is, that there is no greater disposition on the part of the people to work than there was thirty years ago.

44. The Creoles, whether black or coloured, consider regular work for other people's profit a species of slavery, and consequently derogatory. They look upon each other as ladies and gentlemen, and are prone to stand on their dignity; but otherwise they are good-tempered and not given to crime, probably because the wants of nature are so easily supplied that they are not driven to it by necessity. With such characteristics, it is a question whether the planters might not, by a different method of dealing with them, allow them the benefit of their own weaknesses and yet induce them to work. This might, perhaps, be done by giving labourers small contracts to keep in order an acre or so of a cane-field, and then not interfering with them in their work provided they fairly carried out their contracts. Work is given out in this way, I believe, in Barbados, and in some cases where the scheme has been tried here it has been successful; but there is a great objection on the part of managers to leave the beaten track.

45. Immigration may continue, and with it trade will probably flourish, but I do not fail to impress on planters the importance of looking to its possible cessation. Until the native population can be induced to work steadily there will be no real prosperity in the Colony.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. W. RENNIE.

Governor Rawson, C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

[J. C. B.]

GRENADA.

GRENADA.

No. 11.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor FREELING, C.M.G., to Governor RAWSON, C.B.

SIR, Government House, May 20, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1871, together with my Report thereon.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) S. FREELING, Lieut.-Governor.

Governor Rawson, C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK, 1871.

Revenue.

The total revenue collected during the year amounted to 22,879*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*, made up as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Customs	10,795	9	11
Tonnage	769	16	9
Excise	4,802	9	8
Licences	1,945	7	9
Fees and Fines	1,663	1	4
Post Office	163	18	4
Assessed Taxes	2,397	17	4
Miscellaneous	341	17	1
	£22,879	18	2

The arrears of revenue of the previous year, amounting to 4,160*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.*, placed to the credit of the Colony for the service of the year 27,040*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*

Expenditure.

The expenditure of the several establishments was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Civil	3,910	6	5
Judicial	3,654	0	10
Ecclesiastical	2,026	0	0
Legislature	620	1	7
Education	1,265	10	0
Sanitary and Poor Relief	3,143	5	11
Police and Gaols	3,009	10	5
Roads and Works	2,742	11	8
Pensions	32	0	0
Miscellaneous	737	6	7
	£21,140	13	6

The subjoined Table exhibits the revenue and expenditure for the last two years.

REVENUE.

1870.				1871.		
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
23,106	1	1	-	22,879	18	2

EXPENDITURE.

20,824	2	2	-	21,140	13	7

There is no material difference between revenue and expenditure of 1870 and 1871.

Local Revenues.

The following Table shows the Receipts and Expenditures under the several branches of Local Revenues and Special Funds :—

Funds	Revenue.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure. £	s.	d.
Immigration -	Balance (1st Jan., 1871)	5,741	18	4						
	Receipts (Dec., 1871)	2,339	10	0						
					8,081	8	9	6,213	3	9
Water - - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1871)	1,659	18	7						
	Receipts (Dec., 1871)	215	10	1						
					1,875	8	8	51	2	6
Harbour - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1871)	748	14	3						
	Receipts (Dec., 1871)	114	4	8						
					862	18	11	810	4	7
Education - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1871)	295	14	1						
	Receipts (Dec., 1871)	123	11	0						
					419	5	9	77	5	6
Public lands -	Balance (1st Jan., 1871)	9	1	7						
	Receipts (Dec., 1871)	594	3	2						
					603	4	9	144	3	10
Post Office - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1871)	39	19	0						
	Receipts (Dec., 1871)	1,334	6	7						
					1,374	5	7	1,316	16	0
Street - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1871)	169	17	5						
	Receipts (Dec., 1871)	196	19	7						
					366	17	0	333	1	1
Church land - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1871)	140	5	6½						
	Receipts (Dec., 1871)	40	17	1						
					181	2	7½			
Port of Grenville	Balance (1st Jan., 1871)	108	9	7						
	Receipts (Dec., 1871)	434	6	11						
					542	16	6	431	14	6

Public Debt.

A loan of 7,000*l.* was obtained in July, 1858, for immigration purposes. The amount of stock to the credit of the sinking fund at the close of the year was 6,376*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*

Public Works.

A few necessary repairs to public buildings were executed, but no new works commenced.

GRENADA.

Many of the public buildings require extensive repairs and some must be rebuilt. Government House, the block of Government offices in St. George, Colony Hospital, Poor House and Lunatic Asylum do not for the present require any expenditure upon them.

The roads, which for the most part are admirably laid out, merely need on the southern and western sides of the Island to be well macadamized in order to be available for traffic. At present they are nearly impassable from deep ruts and mud. The annual sum of 2,000*l.* per annum voted by the Legislature for their repair has been completely wasted for many years; it appears to have been chiefly expended upon taking mud from the ditches and placing it upon the roads. The Lieut.-Governor has no control over this expenditure, he can but call the attention of the Legislature to waste and mismanagement, but there are undeniably some difficulties in the way of road-making that are not easy to be overcome, such as the reluctance of the people to break stones unless paid very highly. It would, however, have been far better to complete a few miles of good road every year at any cost than to expend 2,000*l.* a year on merely clearing ditches.

I have great hopes of inducing the Legislature to make a grant for the purchase of a road steam-traction engine, and also a stone-breaking machine, as I feel confident that with a first outlay of 1,000*l.* the roads could be thoroughly macadamized in about five years without any further expenditure than the usual annual grant.

Many small and three large bridges to be constructed, and in certain places much blasting of cliff is desirable.

I trust, now that a surveyor has arrived, great improvements will be ere long effected.

Legislation.

Fourteen Acts were passed, but, with the exception of two, the subsidy to the Telegraph Company and the Grenada Steam Navigation Company, were of no very great importance. The great advantage of steamers and telegraphs is, I am thankful to say, beginning to be appreciated by the majority of the community.

Civil Establishment.

The changes during the past year have been as follows:—

Lieut.-Governor Mundy left on the 11th March, 1871, to administer the government of the Leeward Islands.

Mr. Edward Laborde, Colonial Secretary of St. Vincent, administered the government from 22nd March to 25th May, and on the 4th June I was sworn into office as Lieutenant-Governor.

The Acting Auditor absconded on the 9th November, and the Chief Clerk on the 22nd November last, both having embezzled public money; these have been dismissed the service: their places have been respectively filled temporarily by Messrs. D. G. Garraway and G. Humphreys.

Dr. Newsam, Medical Officer Poor House and Lunatic Asylum,

resigned in order to fill an appointment at St. Vincent; he was succeeded by Dr. Alex. Lang.

Population.

I append a comparative statement prepared by the Registrar-General, between the census taken in the year 1861 and that of 1871. The population per last census was 37,684, the natural increase from 1st May, 470, and Indian immigrants introduced per 'Sevilla,' 269, making the total estimated population to 31st December, 38,423. The number of births registered was 1,730, and of deaths 971, being an increase of births over deaths of 759, or 1·98 per cent. of the total estimated population. The birth rate was 4·50 per cent., and the death rate 2·52 per cent.

The number of marriages solemnized during the year was 209, being 3 in excess of the number solemnized during the preceding year.

The following shows the birth and death rates for the last six years:—

Years.	Birth.	Death.
1866	4·16 per cent.	2·50 per cent.
1867	4·05 „	2·69 „
1868	4·14 „	2·48 „
1869	4·43 „	2·66 „
1870	3·98 „	2·26 „
1871	4·50 „	2·52 „

Immigration.

Two hundred and sixty-nine immigrants arrived in the 'Sevilla' from Calcutta in the month of July, 1871. The total number of immigrants in the Colony on 31st December last was 1,895.

The sanitary state of the Coolie population was satisfactory, and on questioning them in my visits to various estates I found them contented; one Coolie was hanged for murder.

Education.

The following return exhibits the numbers of children who have attended the various schools during the past three years:—

SCHOOLS.

Years.	Grammar School.	Normal School.	Church of England.	Wesleyans.	Roman Catholic.	Total.
1869	28	63	988	301	594	1,974
1870	30	87	1,335	371	506	2,529
1871	20	101	1,117	308	507	2,053

An increase of 555 scholars appeared in the returns for 1870 as compared with 1869, but those for 1871 as compared with 1870 show a decrease of 476 scholars.

GRENADA.

The number attending the Grammar School is very unsatisfactory, and unless there is shortly an improvement in this respect the school must be broken up; the money thereby saved could be devoted to increasing the efficiency of the remaining schools, by giving larger salaries to the teachers and thus obtaining perhaps a superior class.

Notwithstanding the attention given by the clergy of different denominations to the schools, the knowledge of the scholars is very limited and superficial. Many indeed merely learn by rote, and are in entire ignorance of the meaning of the words they so glibly read and repeat. I have been painfully struck by this in some of the examinations I have held, and have drawn the attention of the teachers to the matter.

There are undoubtedly difficulties in the way of education, owing to the "patois" generally spoken by the children in their homes, and also the irregularity of their attendance, but I trust these difficulties will be overcome.

Imports and Exports.

There appears to have been an increase in the value of imports over that of 1870 of 27,992*l.*, and of exports an increase of 26,736*l.* The subjoined Tables exhibit the direction of trade and the value of imports and exports during the past three years:—

IMPORTS.

Countries.	1869.			1870.			1871.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
United Kingdom - -	98,331	12	0	54,433	9	5	68,021	9	5
British Colonies - - -	41,589	4	0	35,914	12	11	43,886	0	8
United States - - -	32,836	16	8	10,796	9	6	17,830	5	8
Other foreign countries - -	3,719	13	6	3,330	8	0	2,729	3	2
Totals - - £	176,477	6	2	104,474	19	10	132,466	18	11

EXPORTS.

Countries.	1869.			1870.			1871.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
United Kingdom - -	104,448	4	5	114,154	7	6	132,380	4	8
British Colonies - - -	12,387	15	7	7,936	3	4	12,923	12	7
United States - - -	135	8	4	320	2	0	3,640	6	3
Other foreign countries -	5,000	6	3	4,773	18	0	4,976	12	11
Totals - - £	121,971	14	7	127,184	10	10	153,920	16	5

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 426 of 76,721 tons against 390 of 17,283 tons in the preceding year, and the number cleared was 508 of 68,181 tons against 380 of 18,818 tons.

Agriculture.

The quantity of sugar, cocoa, cotton, &c., shipped during the past three years is shown by the following Table :—

RETURN of the following PRODUCE of the COLONY exported during the Years 1869, 1870, and 1871, and their respective VALUES.

Produce.	1869.		1870.		1871.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£ s. d.	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Cocoa - - -	889	45,018 4 6	1,080	50,406	1,050	53,913
Cotton - - -	59	3,973 0 11	169	7,914	170	7,978
	Gallons.		Gallons.		Gallons.	
Oil (whale) - -	7,226	845 11 0	11,520	1,296	10,550	1,186
Rum - - - -	131,243	8,204 19 6	70,775	3,538	65,950	6,595
	Tons.		Tons.		Tons.	
Sugar - - -	3,254	58,650 3 9	3,880	54,328	5,256	73,596
Spices - -	3	385 17 2	6	555	15	1,360

On the whole there appears to be improvement. On some few estates, where the proprietors are resident and where they have not been obliged to borrow money at a large rate of interest, there is a marked annual improvement, and an ample return for the capital is realized ; on others again it would appear to be difficult to make a profit.

The great difficulty with which planters have to contend is the paucity of labour and the badness of the roads. Labour on cocoa estates seems to be more easily obtained than on sugar estates.

Where, as in this Island, nature is so bountiful that a family with but little labour can raise their own fruit and vegetables on an acre or two of land, where also, from the habits of the negroes and the climate their wants and requirements are but few, it cannot be expected that they will labour on estates more than days sufficient to supply such requirements. Moreover, on the abandoned estates, they can squat unmolested, and do so, in large numbers.

With an abundant supply of Coolie labourers, and with sufficient capital, many estates would be very remunerative, still more so if I am able to establish good roads. With the prosperity of the Island being so dependent upon abundance of labour, it is a matter of concern to me to see the apathy evidenced on the questions of Coolie immigration and the check of mortality among the children of the labouring classes; my endeavours towards improvement in both of these matters having hitherto been unsuccessful.

Whale Fishery.

Ten thousand five hundred and fifty gallons of oil were exported, the produce of whales captured in these waters; the value is 1,186*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

Gaols and Prisoners.

The following Table shows the convictions for the last three years there being a decrease of 59 in 1871 from 1870:—

RETURN OF CONVICTIONS.

Years.	Supreme Court.		Magistrates' Court.		Total.	Debtors.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
1869 - -	13	2	115	31	161	29
1870 - -	14	—	140	53	207	6
1871 - -	7	1	106	34	148	17

The health of the prisoners has been good and the Provost-Marshal carries out the prison regulations effectively and well, but much is still required to establish the prison on a footing in accordance with recognized principles. In order to effect this, a large addition to the present building is required. I am glad, however, to be able to report upon the small amount of crime in this community, the proportion of commitments being only about 3½ per thousand.

Charitable Institutions.

Colony Hospital.—This hospital is in a healthy situation, and although all the wards have not the minimum amount of 1,000 cubic feet for each patient, yet they are so airy and well ventilated that the deficiency is not so much to be deprecated.

The Governing Body visit frequently, and on a minute inspection that I made, with much to praise I could discover nothing to find fault with, except the state of the latrines, which were at once altered and improved according to my suggestions.

Lunatic Asylum.

The building appropriated for a lunatic asylum is well adapted for the purpose; the patients have grounds in which they can walk and the establishment, so far as the medical officer, Dr. Newsam, was concerned, reflected great credit upon him. The control is under a Board of Guardians, but I regret that extensive frauds were discovered to have been perpetrated by the Secretary to the Board, who therefore absconded.

The poor-house is under the same Board; the rooms and offices I found in good order, clean and well ventilated, and the inmates all expressed themselves as comfortable.

Dr. Newsam having left Grenada at the close of last year, and Dr. Lang, who succeeded him, being only there for a few days, the Report upon the lunatic asylum is not so full and complete as I could wish, this will be remedied in future.

General Remarks.

As to the prospects of this Colony, I cannot report favourably. Had the Crown at least equal power with the representatives of the people many marked improvements tending to the prosperity of the community would be effected, but as it is, the Lieutenant-Governor

can but suggest measures, and many, that would prove of undoubted benefit, have thus been suggested by my predecessors and myself, but have been allowed when read to lie upon the table, and have not even been discussed.

The expenditure of public money is, in nearly every instance, placed under committees appointed by the Legislature from their own body, and as might be expected, gentlemen unpaid and having their own business to attend to, cannot devote their time to such a rigid supervision over expenditure as the interests of the public service require.

I cannot help having a firm conviction that were the number of the Legislative Assembly greatly reduced, a stronger feeling of pride and responsibility would be induced among the members, that would prove of benefit to the community; still more do I think that great improvements would be effected, greater prosperity accrue, were the Legislature to abolish the present Constitution and to establish a single Chamber, with the Crown having an equality of votes through its nominees.

This latter would meet with much favour among many owners of estates, but at present there is a large majority of the House of Assembly opposed to it; I trust, however, the day may arrive when they will see the advantages they will derive by the change, and of their own accord will propose it.

Until that day dawns, I see but little good that the Lieutenant-Governor, with every desire on his part, can effect, and but slight hopes of any marked improvement in the commercial prosperity of Grenada.

(Signed) S. FREELING, Lieut.-Governor.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of POPULATION between the CENSUS of 1861 and 1871.

The results of the census of 1st May, 1871, show an increase of population of 5,784, viz. 2,867 males and 2,917, females equal to 18·13 per cent. for the decennial period.

The Colony was divided into eight districts, and a like number of Commissioners were appointed and entrusted with the duties of the census taking. The Commissioners were empowered to appoint enumerators to receive full information in accordance with the instructions issued to them.

All persons were, by the Governor's Proclamation, required to remain in their dwellings on the night of the 30th April, until visited by the enumerating officer.

The Commissioners were required to prepare and forward their returns and abstract of their several Districts to the Registrar-General, who was appointed and required by law to compile the General Abstract of the population.

The total cost of the census amounted to 527*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*

The town of St. George is the only district that has not contributed to an increase of the population. There were fewer inhabited houses, the same number uninhabited, and a lesser number building as compared with the census of 1861, and the number of resident people declined by 102.

GRENADA.

The parish of St. Andrew appears to have been the most prosperous. The houses inhabited and building, &c., increased by 441, and the population by 36·33 per cent.

HOUSES, 1871.

	Increase.	Decrease.
Town of St. George - - - -		9·18 per cent.
Parish of St. George -	8·82 per cent.	
„ St. David -	20·68 „	
„ St. Andrew -	29·10 „	
„ St. Patrick -	5·99 „	
„ St. Mark -	13·36 „	
„ St. John -	28·41 „	
Island of Carriacou -	10·98 „	

A larger number of females constituted the population than of males, as appears by the following Table:—

	Census, year 1861.	Census, 1871.
Males - -	48·31 per cent.	48·51 per cent.
Females - -	51·69 „	51·49 „

Corresponding therefore with the increase of population the fecundity has been of almost equal proportion in the two sexes.

In the table of "Ages" a similar increase is observable in each of the classes abstracted, viz. from the minimum of infants under five years to 60 and other ages of longevity.

The following comparative statement gives the correct ratio to the population of ages of the two sexes:—

	1861.			1871.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years - - -	7·65	7·64	15·29	8·34	8·16	16·50
Over 5 and under 10 years	6·67	6·29	12·96	6·54	6·85	13·39
„ 10 „ 15 „	6·29	5·33	11·62	5·60	5·18	10·78
„ 15 „ 20 „	4·70	5·03	9·73	4·77	5·06	9·83
„ 20 „ 30 „	7·86	9·02	16·88	8·21	9·02	17·23
„ 30 „ 40 „	6·05	6·56	12·61	6·02	6·34	12·36
„ 40 „ 50 „	4·03	4·52	8·55	4·22	4·40	8·62
„ 50 „ 60 „	2·25	2·93	5·18	2·26	2·71	4·97
60 and upwards -	2·81	4·37	7·18	2·55	3·77	6·32
	48·31	51·69	100·00	48·51	51·49	100·00

The total increase of population was 5,784, or 18·13 per cent., contributed by the several districts in the following proportions, viz.:—

Parish of St. George - - -	2·48 per cent.
„ St. David - - - -	2·16 „
„ St. Andrew - - -	6·91 „
„ St. Patrick - - - -	1·77 „
„ St. Mark - - - -	0·48 „
„ St. John - - - -	2·17 „
„ Carriacou - - -	2·47 „

The only decrease appears to have been in the town of St. George, which was, however, not more than 0·32 per cent.

It may be interesting to endeavour, by the aid of these statistics under review, to account for this increase to the population, and although the figures given are not of great magnitude, and naturally enough do not command so general and ready an interest, they yet no doubt compare favourably with the similar statistics of other countries, and in themselves necessarily become of equal weight and importance.

The Table of "Nationality" is fully detailed in the first of the General Abstracts.

On comparison with the census of 1861 there appears an increase of 5,137 natives of the Colony, and this must represent fairly enough the natural increase during the decade. The next increase of importance is that of "Other British West Indians," and which has been ascertained was comprised almost wholly of immigrants from Barbados, who are resident principally in the parishes of St. George and St. Andrew.

The following abstract shows the percentage on increase and decrease in the several descriptive columns under this head:—

	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
BRITISH SUBJECTS.		
Natives of the Colony	16·10	—
Other British West Indians	2·23	—
British Europeans	—	0·30
Asiatics	1·46	—
Africans	—	0·93
Natives of other places	0·05	—
FOREIGNERS.		
Foreign Europeans, Natives of Madeira, North Americans, Foreign West Indians, Natives of other places	—	0·48
Total	19·84	1·71

The several classes comprised in the Abstract of "Rank, Profession, or Occupation" call for little notice. A very sensible increase appears in proprietors of plantations, 74 having been returned, being double the number of the previous census.

The following abstract gives the ratio during the two periods 1861, 1871, in the undermentioned "callings:"—

	1861.	1871.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Labourers on plantations	19·00	22·97
Other labourers	22·09	19·02
Tradesmen and artificers	4·77	4·82
Mariners and fishermen	1·64	1·45
Washerwomen, milliners, &c.	6·89	7·50
Domestics and others	5·25	4·75
Unemployed	6·55	5·47
Blind, deaf, and other infirm	2·33	1·40
Children under ten years	28·25	29·89

GRENADA.

The "condition" of the people as classified in the two sexes does not on the whole compare so very favourably with the corresponding decade. During the last ten years there appears to have been a smaller per centum of the population in married males and females. Widowers and widows increased in this period, the latter to a considerable extent; whilst children under ten years obtained the maximum.

The following is an analysis of the figures to be obtained in the General Abstracts:—

	Males.				Females.			
	Married.	Unmarried.	Widowers.	Children under ten years.	Married.	Unmarried.	Widows.	Children under ten years.
1861	10·14	22·93	0·84	14·32	10·25	24·56	3·03	13·93
1871	8·97	23·73	0·92	14·89	9·30	24·13	3·06	15·00

The "religion" of the people is the remaining tabulated return to be dealt with, and the largest increase appears in the Church of England. Of the non-Christian denominations returned, Hindoos and Mahomedans chiefly compose the number here given.

The following Table shows the proportion per centum of the population under each heading for the periods 1861, 1871:—

RELIGION.

	Church of England.	Church of Scotland.	Church of Rome.	Wesleyan Methodists.	Other Christian Denominations.	Total.	Non-Christian Denominations.
1861	29·75	0·77	60·61	5·59	0·07	96·79	3·21
1871	33·96	0·25	55·73	5·85	0·03	95·82	4·18

I have, &c.,
(Signed) S. MITCHELL,
Colonial Secretary and Registrar-General.

Lieut.-Governor Freeling,
&c. &c. &c.

[J. C. B.]

TOBAGO.

TOBAGO.

No. 12.

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor KORTRIGHT to Governor RAWSON, C.B.

Government House, Tobago,
August 29, 1872.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, together with my Report, the Blue Book of Tobago for 1871.

The Book was handed to me yesterday only, on the eve of my departure from Tobago. I hope, therefore, to be excused if the

Report is not as full as under other circumstances it would have been. The reason assigned for the delay in the preparation of it is the ill-health of the Treasurer, who was unable to furnish his returns earlier.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. H. KORTRIGHT.

His Excellency Governor Rawson, C.B.

REPORT.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1871 exceeded that of 1870 by 1,764*l.* 8*s.* 11½*d.*, as the following comparison shows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Revenue in 1870 - -	11,116	5	0
„ 1871 - -	12,881	3	11½

The export duty for immigration purposes, exhibits an increase in 1871 of 328*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, namely, in 1870, 1,061*l.* 9*s.*; in 1871, 1,389*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*

The expenditure amounted to 11,184*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, and 125*l.* 4*s.* expenses of immigration.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Revenue - - -	12,881	3	11½
Expenditure - - -	11,184	6	3
Balance at end of year	1,696	17	8½

Public Debt.

I am glad to say there is nothing to insert under the head "Public Debt."

Public Works.

No public works were undertaken. The necessary repairs were made to the public buildings, and the roads were put in order throughout the Colony, the former at a cost of 142*l.* 7*s.*, and the latter at an expenditure of 990*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*, irrespective of statute labour.

It may not be out of place to mention that, in the October session of the Legislature, two sums of money were voted for the construction of an hospital in Scarborough, and for the extension of a wharf in the port of Scarborough by the construction of a pier of hard wood, 18 feet wide and 200 feet long, with a tramway to facilitate the transport of heavy merchandise. At the present time, the hospital is progressing and the pier is nearly completed.

Legislature.

Eight Acts were passed during the year. The several money bills for the service of the current year were passed at the close of 1871. The Appropriation Act was passed on the 18th January, and assented to on the 19th. There are no Acts calling for special notice.

Political Franchise.

No change was made in the political franchise.

List of Officers.

Under this head, I have to remark that very few changes took place. Mr. Crooks, Inspector-General of Police, succeeded Mr. Kennedy as Provost-Marshal, which office he holds, in conjunction with his office as Head of the Police, receiving a salary of 450*l.*, and paying into the Treasury the fees heretofore forming part of the Provost-Marshal's salary. Mr. Joseph Worrall succeeded Mr. G. Elliot as Second Revenue Officer, the latter having resigned. Salary 140*l.* a year.

Population.

A census of the population was taken on April 2. The population was then returned at 17,054 persons of all classes and ages.

By census, 1861 - - -	15,410
„ 1871 - - - -	17,054
Increase in 10 years - -	1,644

Education.

By the returns in the Blue Book, it appears that there are twelve schools in connection with the Anglican Church, viz. two primary, two infant, and eight public week-day schools, affording instruction to 812 children. The only State aid given is 100*l.* a year.

Seven Moravian schools are returned, the scholars numbering 887. The Moravians residing generally in settlements, the school-houses are, as a rule, very superior to those of the Church of England, which are very much scattered, and consequently more numerous, requiring a larger outlay to keep them in order. Seven Wesleyan schools complete the number of schools in this Island, educating, according to the returns, 560 children. Thus there are throughout the Colony, schools, 26 ; scholars, 2,262. The Moravians and Wesleyans receive each 100*l.* per annum from the legislative grant. There are several private schools receiving no State aid.

I may state that, at present, the schools are undergoing examination by a gentleman who has studied the Barbados system, with a view to found, on his report, an uniform system of education, and to apportion the legislative grant, which I have no doubt will be cheerfully increased, more equitably according to proficiency, &c.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports was 66,378*l.* In 1870, 61,448*l.* The duty received was 5,909*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.*, which, with 2,083*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* from the additional 40 per cent., gave from import a revenue of 7,993*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*

The total value of exports was estimated at 95,698*l.* In 1870 it was 82,616*l.*

Gaols and Prisons.

The greatest number of prisoners at one time in the only gaol in Tobago, at Fort King George, was 33 males and 7 females; total 40. The total number of prisoners committed in the course of the year was 290. Of these 5 men and 2 women were white, and 240 males and 16 females were black or coloured. 93 males and 12 females could read, and 147 males and 4 females were wholly uneducated. 23 males and 4 females, black or coloured, were under 18 years of age.

The total cases of sickness did not exceed 27, and there were no deaths.

General Remarks.

It will be perceived by this analysis of the Blue Book that, for the last few years, Tobago has been steadily improving. The revenue is now not only sufficient to meet the general expenditure, but to admit of extraordinary disbursements on account of new public works, &c.

The labouring population are contented and happy, but not as steady as could be desired for the interests of their employers.

An influx of immigrants would be beneficial, not only to the planters, but to the labourers themselves, who would be obliged, by a wholesome competition, to forego many of their idle habits.

[J. C. B.]

ST. LUCIA.

No. 13.

COPY of a REPORT from the Administrator of the Government to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

45, St. James's Place, London, S.W.,
December 31, 1872.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a Report on the condition and prospects of St. Lucia for the year 1871.

Some blanks have been left in one paragraph; but I hope to be able to supply the figures before the Report is printed; and I have written to the Colony to obtain them.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. WILLIAM DES VŒUX.

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Finance.

The revenue of 1871 was the largest ever raised in the Island, and exceeded by 2,565*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*, or over 12 per cent. the revenue of 1870, which itself exceeded that of any former year, the taxation remaining the same.

ST. LUCIA.

The receipts from different sources in each of these two years are given in the subjoined schedule.

	1871.			1870.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
General revenue - - -	18,307	11	11	15,869	0	7
Roads and bridges - - -	1,764	4	11	1,647	10	10
Immigration Fund - -	2,212	19	8	2,194	14	8
Education Fund (exclusive of grant from general revenue)	622	4	6	606	1	5
Casual revenue - - - -	137	10	0	153	0	3
Harbour Dredge Fund - -	150	11	5	161	9	10
	23,195	2	5	20,629	17	9

An increase of 1,812*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* in the revenue from imports accounts for the larger part of the improvement. This was partly owing to the "clearing" of an unusually large quantity of tobacco at the end of the year, in order to avoid the extra duty to be imposed in 1872, but chiefly to a really increased consumption, stimulated by the high prices of sugar.

For reasons given in my Report for 1870, the amount realized from this staple produce is likely to have in St. Lucia a more immediate effect on the import trade even than in the other West Indian Colonies.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year 1871 is shown in the subjoined schedule, as also for purpose of comparison that for 1870 :—

	1871.			1870.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
General expenditure - -	*15,920	8	3	14,602	6	1
Roads and bridges - - -	1,390	18	8	1,615	7	0
Immigration - - - -	3,280	9	5	2,319	15	3
Education (exclusive of grant from general revenue) - -	580	10	4	919	9	0
Casual revenue - - -	34	2	6	5	10	0
Harbour Dredge - - -	88	5	10	85	19	11
	21,294	15	0	19,549	7	3

* Exclusive of contribution of 1,059*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* to "Immigration" included under that head.

The large increase under the head "Immigration" is chiefly owing to the fact that in the year which is the subject of this Report there was paid the cost of sending back to India the remainder of the Coolies entitled to back passage. This charge, which has not formed an item in the accounts for several years, amounted to 2,529*l.* 12*s.* The total expenditure under this head would, by comparison with 1870, have been more largely in excess, but that in the latter year were paid bounties to such of the Coolies as preferred to commute their right to back passage. The choice between passage and bounty was made in 1870, and the amount paid for bounties appears in the accounts of that year, while the passage-money was not paid until 1871.

The chief items that contributed to swell the general expenditure are (1) an increased charge of 394*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* for hospitals; (2) of 398*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* under the head "Miscellaneous;" (3) of 227*l.* 9*s.* for "Vaccination;" (4) of 237*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* for subsidy of Island coasting steamer.

The explanation of these is as follows:—

1. The cost of hospitals increased, not because disease was more rife than usual, but because accommodation was found for an increased number of patients, of whom there have always been many more than could be provided for. Increased population being in St. Lucia the main requisite of prosperity, I am convinced that the expenditure under this head might be still largely increased with advantage.

2. The item Miscellaneous was increased chiefly by the expenses incurred in connection with the new medical staff referred to under the head Legislation, and by contributions for the relief of the sufferers by the fire at Point à Pitre, Guadaloupe, and by the hurricane in the Virgin Islands.

3. Unusual encouragement was given to vaccination before the passing of the new law on the subject, in consequence of the appearance of small-pox in the neighbouring Island of Trinidad. Almost the whole increase in the item is due to the payment for operations at 1*s.* each. It may be hoped, therefore, that the money has been well laid out.

4. The subsidy to the coasting steamers, though appearing in the Estimates for several years, has not been paid except for a few months in 1868. This subject will be further referred to under the head "General Remarks."

The decreased expenditure on education is, I am happy to say, only apparent, and is due to the fact that the amount for 1870 was swelled by payments for services performed in the previous year. The actual expenditure in the years 1870 and 1871 was nearly the same.

Notwithstanding the increased expenditure, the total of the balances of the various funds in the Treasury at the close of 1871 was larger than it has been for many previous years, and larger, probably, than at any former time. Being absent from the Colony, I am unable to give the exact amount; but I was informed before my departure that it exceeded 9,000*l.*, while in 1870 it was 6,619*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*; in 1869, 5,641*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*; in 1868, 4,451*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*, and this though up to the close of 1871 there had been no increase of taxation.

Agriculture and Trade.

The sugar crop of 1871 proved, contrary to general expectation, to be the largest ever produced in the Island. The following Table shows the total produce of sugar estates shipped in the years 1871, 1870, 1869, and 1868 respectively, the crop of 1869, though the smallest of the four, having exceeded in amount that of any former year, and far exceeding any obtained during slavery.

	1871.	1870.	1869.	1868.
Sugar, pounds avoirdupois	12,918,960	12,444,153	10,517,725	11,118,829
Molasses, gallons - -	234,800	153,000	205,000	191,400
Rum „ - - -	9,316	2,461	1,840	2.058

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As in the last few years the number of imported labourers has considerably decreased, owing to the departure of the great majority of the Coolies, it would seem that the Creole labourer is really becoming more industrious. The high price of sugar has no doubt afforded a stimulus to exertion, but it is nevertheless a hopeful fact that exertion can be aroused in him at all. For habits of industry once acquired may remain even after the disappearance of their original cause.

Owing to the high prices above referred to, the total value of the exports, though these consisted mainly of the produce of sugar cultivation, shows an increase by comparison with preceding years out of all proportion to that in the crop.

Their value in 1871 was 171,460*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*; in 1870, 147,171*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*; so that the increase was 24,288*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*, or 16·5 per cent., and this though in the latter year there was an increase at the rate of about 21 per cent. as compared with 1868, when the returns under this head were higher than in any previous year.

The import trade shows an increase corresponding to the above. The value of goods imported in 1871 was 121,384*l.*; in 1870, 106,285*l.*; in 1869, 90,464*l.*; in 1868, 97,845; showing an increase in the first-mentioned year of 15,099*l.* as compared with 1870, and of 23,539*l.*, or over 24 per cent. as compared with 1868, this last year having in the value of exports as well as of imports surpassed all former years.

The Census.

The census of 1871 shows a total population of 31,600, an increase of 4,936, or over 18 per cent. on the number (26,674) enumerated in 1861. As in the interval more people have left the Island than have come to it, the whole of this increase is a natural one. The number obtained from the census returns tallies so nearly with the estimate of the Registrar, formed from the registration returns as to afford indirect testimony to the substantial accuracy of both means of enumeration.

We have then the fact sufficiently well established, that the reputation of St. Lucia for peculiar unhealthiness is completely undeserved. For while there has been an increase of the coloured and black population unsurpassed, I am inclined to think, in any other Colony, even the whites have not decreased in number. There is indeed an apparent decrease in the latter of 91. But this is more than accounted for by the fact, that the white troops, over 200 of whom, as I am informed, were enumerated in 1861, had been removed before 1871.

Considering that regular medical and surgical assistance was until quite lately out of the reach of the great majority of the population, and that thus many lives must have been lost that might have been saved had we enjoyed the advantages in this respect enjoyed by other communities, the increase above mentioned must be regarded a remarkable one, and affords a reasonable hope that the Island will one day contain a population worthy of its size and productive capabilities.

The increase in the male and female population is about equal, being at the rate of 18·3 per cent. in the former, and 18·5 per cent. in the latter. The excess of female population is therefore about the

same as in 1861, so that the causes which produced it in the past, and which seem to be still existing in neighbouring colonies, have here disappeared.

Education.

This subject was fully discussed in my Report for 1870. I have now nothing further of interest to mention, except that the returns both of the Mico and Roman Catholic schools show an increased number of attendances.

Legislation.

* * * * * * * *

Ordinance No. 12 is for the better medical care of the sick poor, and for the regulation of out-door relief. It provides for the division of the Island into medical districts—each to be in charge of a Government doctor, whose especial duty is to give medical and surgical aid to labourers and their families; these services to be gratuitous when rendered at certain fixed times and places, and paid for according to a low tariff of fees, in case of special visits.

In order to secure the regular performance of this duty, the doctors are required to keep books, and to enter in them every case treated and the remedy prescribed.

Out-door relief is to be dispensed in each district by a poor-law committee, with the stipendiary magistrate as chairman; and there are stringent regulations for the recovery of expenses incurred from the natural supporters of those relieved, or, in the case of imported labourers, from their employers.

The Ordinance also provides for the better government of what are called "The Charitable Institutions," viz.: the General Hospital, the Yaws Hospital, and the Lunatic Asylum.

The cost of this measure is to be borne entirely by the general revenue. In a small community like that of St. Lucia there is little danger of extravagance on the part of local committees, inasmuch as their proceedings can be so readily supervised by the Government; while, on the other hand, if the funds at their disposal were derived from local sources, the pressure of ratepayers would be likely to lead to undue parsimony. Besides, inasmuch as progress is so largely dependent on increase of population, the saving of each life is more than ordinarily the concern of the whole community, and its cost may therefore, it is presumed, be properly defrayed from the general revenue.

The Ordinance will probably cause an addition to the annual expenditure of about 1,200*l.*; but there are already indications that the hopes expressed on the introduction of the measure will be fully realized, and that it will prove not less economical than humane.

The Coolies imported cost each on the average over 25*l.* for their mere passages and bounties, and yet their introduction was considered so profitable to the Colony that the planters are now desiring more. It is a question whether the Creole is not on the average as valuable to the Colony as the Coolie for an equal period. At all events there can be little doubt but that the life residence of the one is equally productive with the ten years' residence of the other, shortened as the

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latter so frequently is by death or desertion. Estimating the value of native labour at that low rate, it is clear from the above that the saving of forty-eight lives per annum, without taking into account their natural increase, would render the measure economically profitable.

Now, up to the month of December, 1871, the law had been in operation in only one medical district, containing about 13,000 inhabitants, or only about two-fifths of the whole population, and then only for six months. Nevertheless the registration return for that short period shows forty-one deaths less than in the corresponding period of last year, and this although in the other districts in which up to the month mentioned the law had not been in force there was an increased mortality.

As the registration system has only been a short time in operation, it is impossible to ascertain with certainty whether the mortality of 1870 was exceptional. The general opinion, however, is that it was about the average; and in support of it I may mention that an estimate of the population, based upon the rates of births and deaths of that year,* is shown by the census to be very nearly accurate. There was, moreover, in 1871 an epidemic of whooping cough, which was very fatal to children in the quarter of Gros Islet, part of the district in question, whereas in 1870 there was no epidemic whatever.

The above result is so extraordinary, that I fear it must to some extent be looked upon as mere coincidence. This can only be determined by longer experience. If, however, the mortality should prove to be permanently reduced to this extent, it is clear, according to the above calculation, that the whole cost of the measure will be saved in this district alone.

I regret to be compelled to justify a measure of this kind on such grounds, but by such means alone was opposition to it disarmed; and unless this view of it is continually kept before the public, I fear lest a succession of short crops, accompanied by the usual indiscriminate desire of retrenchment, may bring about an agitation for its repeal.

* * * * * * * *

Ordinance No. 17 provides for compulsory vaccination, and is an adaptation to the circumstances of the Colony of the English Acts of 1867 and 1871; there are also other provisions intended as a security against payment for other than successful operations.

The searching investigation, conducted by the late Committee of the House of Commons, is sufficient to convince every unbiassed mind not only of the enormous benefits conferred by vaccination, but of the propriety of making it compulsory. As there are no anti-vaccination enthusiasts in St. Lucia, I am inclined to think that but little compulsion will be required. The small-pox has in the past committed ravages which are as yet by no means forgotten. Mothers have already in the last five years shown a laudable anxiety to give their children the benefit of vaccination, so that in that time there have

* 1870 was the first year in which the registration returns were trustworthy, the system of registration having come into operation only in 1869.

been over 5,000 operations. And I am of opinion that, with a moderate vigilance on the part of the Government, an unvaccinated child might soon become as difficult to find as an unregistered one is now.

* * * * * * * *

General Remarks.

The peace of the Colony was preserved throughout the year. The public health was good, and serious crime was as usual remarkably rare. Irrespectively of the legislation above described, which has brought about so many important changes, and it is to be hoped improvements, the year 1871 will be memorable in the Colonial annals, as being that in which the Island was for the first time connected with the rest of the world by the electric telegraph, and also as that in which steam communication between the different towns of the Island was for the first time regularly maintained.

G. WILLIAM DES VŒUX,
Administrator of the Government.

[S. J.]

ANTIGUA.

No. 14.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir BENJ. C. C. PINE, K.C.M.G., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Leeward Islands, Antigua, April 5, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Antigua for the year 1871.

My time is at the present moment so fully occupied in completing the arrangements consequent on the coming into operation of the Leeward Islands Act, that I am unable to accompany the Blue Book with the usual Report. I shall, however, forward a special Report at an early date, but I may here state that the returns are highly satisfactory, exhibiting as they do an improvement in the finances, an increase in trade, and a marked diminution of crime.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BENJ. C. C. PINE, Governor,
Leeward Islands.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

[J. C. B.]

MONTSERRAT.

MONTSERRAT.

No. 15.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Administrator BAYNES to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Leeward Islands, Antigua, September 25, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Montserrat for 1871, with a summary thereof forwarded by the Acting President.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWIN BAYNES,
Administrator of the Government, Leeward Islands.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Treasury, Montserrat, September 15, 1872.

SUMMARY OF BLUE-BOOK STATISTICS FOR 1871.

Revenue.

The total revenue collected during the year 1871 amounted to 4,194*l.* 16*s.* 6¼*d.*, viz.:—

	£	s.	d.
Imports	1,830	10	6
Exports	65	18	3½
Tonnage dues	67	17	6
Land and house tax	1,110	19	1
Horse tax	186	6	0
Commutation of statute labour on roads	12	18	0
Stamps	119	9	8
Excise on rum	478	6	1½
Licences for sale of spirits, wines, &c.	75	0	0
Licences for boats, porters, and watermen, &c.	10	9	6
Fines, forfeitures, and other incidental receipts in aid of revenue	237	1	10¼
	4,194	16	6¼

	£	s.	d.			
Balance in Treasury, 31st December, 1870	1,392	12	9¾			
Less deposit not available for revenue	36	10	5¼			
				1,356	2	4½
Total available revenue for 1871				£5,550	18	10¾

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Establishments—						
Civil	776	3	11			
Judicial	650	0	0			
Ecclesiastical	493	4	10½			
Police	372	9	0			
Gaol officers	54	3	4			
Pension	13	0	0			
				2,359	1	1½
Services exclusive of Establishments—						
Poor-house, hospital, and asylum	686	4	5¾			
Prisoners	55	12	8¼			
Printing and stationery	79	10	10			
Government House	32	10	10			
Works and buildings	109	11	1½			
Roads	143	1	6¾			
Public debt	555	4	6			
Quarantine	17	15	10			
Education	108	5	0			
Special (medical districts)	299	15	4			
Census	58	19	4			
Miscellaneous	49	13	6½			
				2,196	5	0¾
Total expenditure, 1871				£4,555	6	2¼
Balance in Treasury, 31st December 1871, available for revenue 1872				995	12	8¼

The gross expenditure in 1871, 4,555*l.* 6*s.* 2¼*d.*, includes arrears of 1870 :—

	£	s.	d.
Establishments	137	3	10½
Services exclusive	93	5	9
	£230	9	7½

In 1871, a reduction of taxation, in addition to the repeal in 1870 of all duties on wheat flour and corn meal, was effected, amounting to 1,030*l.*, viz. :—

	£
On goods paying ad valorem duty from 10*l.* per 100*l.* to 7*l.* 10*s.* per cent.	300
Abolition of tonnage dues on shipping	130
Abolition of export duties	600
	£1,030

The rate which taxation bears to the population is 9*s.* 1*d.* per head.

COMPARATIVE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.
£ 4,071	£ 4,953	£ 5,433	£ 5,126	£ 4,194

Expenditure.

4,024	4,656	5,046	4,432	4,555

Public Debt.

There remains due to the Imperial Government on the Earthquake Loan of 1843 the sum of 1,011*l.* 16*s.*, payable in two equal annual instalments, with interest at 3¼ per cent; 18 annual instalments of the original debt having been regularly paid with interest.

Population.

Census, 1861.			Census, 1871.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
3,447	4,198	7,645	3,978	4,715	8,693

Registered Births and Deaths.

Year.	Births.			Deaths.			Marriages.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1867 - - -	136	154	290	61	97	158	30
1868 - - -	169	159	328	87	80	167	57
1869 - - -	168	188	356	135	142	277*	68
1870 - - -	186	208	394	87	96	183	66
1871 - - -	194	197	391	81	93	174	65

* In 1869, 93 deaths occurred from diphtheria, chiefly among infants and juveniles.

In 1871, the births (391) exceeded the deaths (174) by 217.

The birth-rate was 4·49, and the death-rate 2·001 per cent. of the population.

The excess of births over deaths in the last five years (1867 to 1871) was 800.

Education.

Denomination.	Schools.	Number on Books.			Average Attendance.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	
Anglican Church -	9	406	390	796	439
Roman Catholic - -	1	45	70	115	50
Wesleyan - - -	5	270	187	457	217
	15	721	647	1,368	706

A grant of 100*l.* in aid of education was made from the local treasury this year, which sum is divided to each denomination pro rata on the average attendance, and no school is allowed to participate in the grant the average attendance of which does not reach 20 scholars.

Imports and Exports.

	£	£
1870 - - -	23,043	29,141
1871 - - - -	27,017	37,069

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

	Sugar.	Rum.	Molasses.	Tamarinds.	Lime Juice.		Horned Cattle.
					Raw.	Concentrated.	
	hhds.	puns.	puns.	brls.	puns.	puns.	
1870 - -	1,879	5	418	209	—	85	69
1871 - -	1,891	38	466	8	414	106	134

	Sheep.	Pigs.	Goats.	Horses.	Firewood.	Potatoes.
					cords.	brls.
1870 - -	81	27	15	8	242	1
1871 - -	120	10	14	7	351	567

Shipping.

Entered.	1870.		1871.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British - - -	124	6,578	127	5,888
French - - - -	3	68	1	25
Swedish - - -	4	86	1	8
Dutch - - - -	2	38	4	188
Danish - - -	—	—	1	10

Cleared.	1870.		1871.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British - - -	121	7,181	132	5,864
French - - - -	3	68	1	25
Swedish - - -	4	86	1	8
Dutch - - - -	2	138	4	188
Danish - - -	—	—	1	10

Criminal.

	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.
Number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before magistrate - - -	813	737	719	727
Summary convictions—				
1. Offences against the person - - - -	113	136	125	120
2. Prædial larceny - - - - - - -	19	23	12	7
3. Offences against property other than prædial larceny - - - - - - - - -	54	43	29	22
4. Other offences - - - - - - -	189	121	91	108

Criminal—continued.

	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.
Number of convictions in Superior Courts—				
1. Offences against the person	6	2	6	2
2. Prædial larceny	—	—	—	—
3. Offences against property other than prædial larceny	3	—	3	8
4. Other offences	3	4	7	1
Number of persons acquitted—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	213	184	199	166
2. In the Superior Courts	2	2	9	5

Poor-house, Hospital, and Lunatic Asylum.

There is one establishment under this head, maintained at a cost of 686*l.*, and is under the control of a Board of Guardians, composed of three members. The daily average of inmates in the poor-house during the year was 24.

Hospital.

Sex.	Number at beginning of 1871.	Admitted during 1871.	Daily Average.	Discharged.			Died 1871.
				Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	
Males	6	53	7	42	5	1	6
Females	4	40	5	26	3	2	9

Lunatics.

Sex.	Admitted during 1871.	Daily Average, 1871.	Discharged.		Died 1871.	Average Stay of those		
			Cured.	Relieved.		Died 1871.	Discharged.	Remaining.
Males	—	7	—	—	2	5 years.	5 years.	5 years.
Females	1	5	—	1	—			2½ years.

J. MEADE,
Treasurer.

[J. C. B.]

ST. KITTS.

No. 16.

(Not received.)

NEVIS.

No. 17.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir BENJ. C. C. PINE, K.C.M.G., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Leeward Islands, Antigua, May 31, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Nevis for 1871.

The Blue Book was not accompanied by any Report from the President, and I am at present so busily engaged with the business consequent on the inauguration of the Federation System that I am unable to report on it.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, (Signed) BENJ. C. C. PINE,
&c. &c. &c. Governor.

[J. C. B.]

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir BENJ. C. C. PINE, K.C.M.G., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Leeward Islands, Antigua, April 5, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of the Virgin Islands for the year 1871, together with a Report thereon from President Moir.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) Benj. C. C. PINE,
Governor of Leeward Islands.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 18.

(No. 30.)

SIR, Tortola, March 25, 1872.

I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book for the Colony of the Virgin Islands for the year 1871.

Revenue Expenditure.

2. The revenue for the year was 2,173*l.* 17*s.* 5½*d.*, against 2,058*l.* 17*s.* in 1870. In the import duties and wreck-boat licences there was a slight decrease, the latter source of revenue being entirely dependent on the occurrence of wrecks on the various reefs surrounding these islands, and none, happily, having been cast away during

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1871; but the other branches of revenue supplied the deficiency, and gave the increase noted above. The amounts collected under the several heads for the last two years are as follows:—

RECEIPTS.

	1870.			1871.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	1,013	8	1¾	933	19	6¾
Licences	230	17	9½	191	17	11
Taxes	364	18	5½	366	6	2¼
Post Office	16	19	6½	15	3	10¾
Fines and penalties	29	8	9¾	24	10	11
Registering deeds	5	1	6	17	4	11
Restoration of public bs.	—			78	9	0½
Miscellaneous	398	2	9	546	5	0¼
	2,058	17	0	2,173	17	5½
Balances from 1869 and 1870	6	17	1	112	2	11¾
	2,065	14	1	2,286	0	5¼

The expenditure for 1871 was 2,117*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*, against 1,953*l.* 11*s.* 1¼*d.* in 1870. The necessary cost of repairing the gaol, and West End Custom House, both of which had been much injured by the hurricane of the 21st August, and the increased expenditure in providing food and accommodation for a more than average number of old and infirm people in the poorhouse and infirmary, many of whom had suffered from the same calamity, contributed to swell the disbursements. The printing of Ordinances from 1867 to the present year, and paying off the debt incurred by the Colony in 1868 and 1869, in consequence of the hurricane of 1867, also conduced to diminish the balance, which otherwise would have been larger in favour of the Colony than is shown in the subjoined summary of the expenditure in

	1870.			1871.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	1,953	11	1¼	2,117	6	4
Balances to 1871 and 1872	112	2	11¾	168	14	1¼
	2,065	14	1	2,286	0	5¼

With all the drawbacks of the past year, a balance of upwards of 168*l.* was in hand at its close available for the services of 1872, and with the prospect of still further reduction in the expenditure under the federation of the Leeward Islands, and the Colony's accomplished freedom from debt, your Excellency anticipates that these Islands will be able to pay the whole cost of government, thereby relieving the mother-country for the future from contributing anything to its support, with the exception of 178*l.* towards federal expenses.

Public Works.

3. The repairs to the gaol, public wharf, boat-house, gun-shed, and West End Custom House, all of which were more or less injured by the hurricane, and the improved ventilation introduced into the poor-

house and infirmary, were accomplished before the close of the year. The public roads, most of which are mountain passes, had been put in fair order, but were much cut up by the same catastrophe, and the statute labour having been expended, there was no means of doing more to them than removing the trees, and other obstructions to passengers. I have found that the Amended Road Ordinance, under which I was enabled to appoint a salaried Inspector for Tortola, has worked beneficially; for, during last year, a much greater amount of labour was obtained, and an improved system of work was introduced. Roads, which had not been touched for years, were opened up, and made passable; and had not much been destroyed and washed away as above mentioned, one might have ridden, after this year, with safety and comparative comfort over the Island. But much has now to be done over again, and visible progress in this important work has been retarded.

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Ordinance No. 7 of 1870.

Legislation.

4. Seven Ordinances were passed during the year 1871. The following are the titles:—

1. Appropriation of Revenue Ordinance for 1871.
2. An Ordinance prohibiting the exportation of arms, &c.
3. An Ordinance to make provision for the better Administration of Justice.
4. An Ordinance to regulate the office of Coroner.
5. An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 2, 1871.
6. An Ordinance to grant to the widow of the late Colonial Surgeon the sum of 33*l*.
7. Appropriation of Revenue Ordinance for 1872.

Civil Establishment.

5. Much to the satisfaction of the respectable portion of the community the services of a competent medical gentleman had been secured; but for several months after his arrival in the Colony there was such lack of appreciation amongst the majority of the people of the value of his services that he was constrained, from personal motives, to seek another field for the exercise of his acquired knowledge; and he has—to the *now* great regret of the whole population—left for Jamaica, where he had obtained another appointment. Although the departure of Dr. Ogilvie, and the sudden death of Mr. Farrington, member of Council, Puisne Judge, and Treasurer of the Colony, are events properly belonging to the present year, yet both have been so recent, and each so much regretted, that I cannot refrain recording them now. The death of the latter is mourned by very many outside his family circle, for he was most amiable and generally beloved, and his place as an Executive Councillor cannot be adequately supplied.

Population.

6. The births and deaths for the ten years from 1861 to 1870, were given in my last year's Report. Since then the Census return shows that there was in April, 1871, a population of—males, 3,379; females, 3,272. In April, 1861, males, 3,088; females, 3,274,

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being an increase of 291 males, and a decrease of 2 females, exhibiting a total increase during the previous ten years of 289 souls.

The Census returns give the number of—

Whites, in 1861	476
„ 1871	123
Decrease	353
Blacks in 1871	4,565
„ 1861	4,018
Increase	547
Coloured, in 1871	1,963
„ 1861	1,557
Increase	406

Of these 3,073 are stated to be engaged in agricultural labour, 21 in professional and official duties, 6 in commerce, 183 are mechanics, 23 domestic servants, 1,572 are children under 10 years of age, and 1,773 are engaged in domestic pursuits, or without any specific employment. But of the two latter now mentioned the great majority are married women and young persons, who assist the male agriculturists in the cultivation and management of their provision grounds, while many also occupy themselves in fishing and charcoal burning, and in carrying the produce of their labour to St. Thomas and Santa Cruz. The truth is that, with few exceptions,—and these principally old and infirm people resident in Road Town and elsewhere,—the whole population is more or less engaged in provision and cane cultivation, in raising stock, and in fishing pursuits, and while there is a lamentable absence of visible prosperity, yet, as a general rule, the people are able to obtain a livelihood, to clothe themselves respectably, and to do their part in support of their churches and of the inexpensive Government they now enjoy. The religious denominations are returned as follows in 1871:—

Episcopalians	1,164
Wesleyans	5,413
Presbyterians	6
Roman Catholics	17
Other denominations	51
Total	6,651

With respect to the important question of the proportion of the sexes and the mortality of male and female children, I give one or two extracts from previous Despatches, and the conclusions at which I have endeavoured fairly to arrive. In 1861 the numbers of males and females, as shown in the Census, were:—

Females	3,374
Males	3,088
Excess of females	186

In 1871:—

Males - - - - - -	3,379
Females - - - - - -	3,272
Excess of males - -	107

The latter result will be found, I believe, to be exceptional in the West Indies, where generally the females are redundant; but here, during the last decade, there appears to have been an increase in the male population of 291, and a decrease of two in the females. In the Virgin Islands during the last ten years there were births of:—

	Males.	Females.
Births - - - - - -	1,106	992
Deaths - - - - - -	711	636
Excess of births -	395	356

At the recent Census there were alive *and present in the Colony*:—

	Males.	Females.
Up to the age of fifty - -	2,818	2,673
Upwards of fifty - - -	393	542
	3,211	3,215

There is therefore nothing to show an excessive or abnormal birth of males over females. There is no influx of a male population, for emigration to Crab Island, St. Croix, Culebra, and St. Thomas is the rule, immigration the exception. The death of females over males cannot be the reason for the decrease of females, as the former numbered 636, while the latter amounted to 711. The proportion of males to females alive, under one year, is 870 to 702, while the proportion of deaths during the same period of age, is 140 males to 108 females. My own experience here has been too short to enable me to arrive at a just and fair conclusion, but from the weight of oral evid ence I have collected, and a communication from the Rev. Mr. Kent, one of the Wesleyan missionaries, I am given to understand that the female population has been for some time visibly drained off, principally to St. Thomas, where a life of prostitution is led for some years, the result being death at that place from disease, or a return to this Colony in old age and a gradual dropping into the grave. Mr. Kent remarks that "the records of the Wesleyan Church exhibit "a much larger proportion of female removals and emigration to "males. The majority of the female sex who quit these isles for "St. Thomas are nearer twenty than thirty years of age." It is, then, fair to conclude that the reversal of the sexes, as shown in the Census returns for the two periods, may be attributed to the emigration of females from the Colony. As there appears to be no excessive infantile mortality in these Islands, it does not come within the scope of this Report to record my opinion or experience on that part of the subject.

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The births during 1871 are given as:—

Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		Totals.	
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
77	60	35	39	112	99
				211	

DEATHS.

Under 1 year.		From 1 to 10 years.		From 11 to 20 years.		From 21 to 30 years.		From 31 to 40 years.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
20	18	6	9	—	2	12	11	1	8

From 41 to 50 years.		From 51 to 60 years.		From 61 to 70 years.		Upwards of 70 years.		Totals.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
6	2	2	3	6	4	7	11	60	68
								128	

CAUSES of DEATH.

	M.	F.	Total.		M.	F.	Total.
Accidents	4	2	6	Brought forward	37	40	77
Apoplexy	1	—	1	Fever	5	11	16
Asthma	2	3	5	Heart disease	1	2	3
Childbirth	—	3	3	Liver complaint	1	—	1
Consumption	16	22	38	Natural decay	10	10	20
Convulsions	4	4	8	Still-born	2	—	2
Dentition	1	1	2	Stricture	2	—	2
Drowning	1	—	1	Tetanus	—	1	1
Dysentery	7	2	9	Ulcers	1	3	4
Dropsy	1	3	4	Unreported	1	1	2
Carried forward	37	40	77	Totals	60	68	128

The marriages in 1871 are returned by the Registrar-General as numbering only 18, which is considerably below the average of the previous ten years.

Education.

7. The annual grant of 80*l.* has, as usual, been distributed by the School Board among the various schools, which are partially supported by the Church of England and the Wesleyan Society. The number of schools and the children in regular attendance at them are as follows:—

	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars.		Total.
		M.	F.	
Church of England	6	149	172	321
Wesleyan	7	237	198	435
				756

The former received 33*l.* 6*s.* and the latter 46*l.* 14*s.* from the grant in aid of the salaries paid to their teachers.

Imports and Exports.

8. The value of imports is returned at 4,184*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*, and that of exports at 6,601*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*, being an apparent decrease of 240*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* in the former and of 206*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* in the latter, as compared with the previous year's Report. There appears, however, to have been some confusion in making out the returns for 1870, in consequence, apparently, of the value of a large quantity of wrecked goods which had been introduced into the returns. The following appears to have been the real state of the case:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Value of imported goods for the year 1870 -	4,425	5	4
Wrecked goods - - - - - - -	3,460	14	1½
Total - - - - - - -	£7,885	19	5½

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Value of exports for the year 1870 - -	5,460	19	11
Wrecked goods - - - - - - -	1,347	7	4
Total - - - - - - -	£6,808	7	3

	Value of Imports.				Value of Exports.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*		£	*s.*	*d.*
For 1870 - -	4,425	5	4	-	5,460	19	11
„ 1871 - -	4,184	8	5	-	6,601	7	9
Decrease -	£240	16	11	Increase	£1,140	7	10

And this statement corresponds with the amounts of import and export duties received during the year, the former having fallen off by the sum of 103*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*, and the latter increased by the sum of 20*l.* 17*s.* 8¼*d.* The diminished importation of flour alone is sufficient to account for this decrease in the value and the import duties, 348 barrels less than in 1870 having been imported in 1871, while a larger number of live stock and a greater quantity of salt, charcoal, cotton, and sugar exported during 1871 than in 1870 accounts for the increase in the value and the duty on exports.

Criminal Statistics and Gaols and Prisoners.

9. The new returns relating to crime and prison discipline, which were received by last mail, are now being made up for insertion in the Blue Book, but I fear they will not be completed to enable me, at this time, to offer any necessary observations on them. There were twelve males and three females confined for short periods in the gaol during the year; not more than two at any one time; and all the convictions were for comparatively trifling offences, the longest imprisonment having continued for 60 days. The various terms were as follows:—Nine persons in prison for seven days each, one for 14, three for 30, two for 60.

Charitable.

10. The cost of the poorhouse and infirmary for the year was 165*l.* 11*s.* 9¼*d.*, including the salary to the matron and the charges for burials, clothing, &c., while a sum of 119*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* was distributed among 56 outdoor pensioners in sums varying from 9*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* each per week. The total cost to the Colony for the charitable department was thus 285*l.* 1*s.* 3¼*d.*, in addition to which the Colonial surgeon received 75*l.* for his medical attendance at this institution and on any prisoners confined in the gaol, and 25*l.* as health officer. A ground plan of the infirmary was transmitted in my Despatch, No. 52, of the 7th June, 1871, and I insert a copy in the Blue Book.

No. in the Infirmary on 1st Jan., 1871.		No. admitted during the year 1871.		No. discharged during the year 1871.		No. who died during the year 1871.		No. remaining on the 31st Dec., 1871.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
6	9	10	6	4	3	4	5	8	7

No. of CASES and NATURE of DISEASE treated in INFIRMARY during 1871.

Nature of Disease.	No. of Cases.		No. of Deaths.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Accident to hand - -	—	1	—	—
Consumption - - -	1	2	1	2
Chronic ulcers - -	9	6	1	2
Debility - - - -	1	1	1	1
Inflammation of brain -	1	—	1	—
Totals - - -	12	10	4	5

General Remarks.

11. The event of the year was the hurricane, which reached us on the 21st August, and which did so much damage in the Leeward Islands. I have attempted to describe one of these frightful storms in the Blue Book from Turk's Island for 1866, and I now do myself the pleasure of subjoining the Report, drawn up by the Rev. Mr. Bishop, Wesleyan missionary, and adopted at a meeting of the Relief Committee which I had appointed to assist me in the distribution of funds so generously subscribed and forwarded to me for the relief of the sufferers from the terrible calamity. The general health of the Colony was satisfactory, and its tranquillity remained uninterrupted.

12. I have on several occasions endeavoured to rouse the people who are engaged in stock raising to the advantages they will probably reap when the "Leeward Islands Act, 1871," shall come into operation, provided they speedily extend their grazing operations, and thus be in a favourable position to avail themselves of the privilege of steam communication with the sister islands, which will shortly be put within their reach, for a profitable trade in cattle, horses, sheep, &c.,

but it appears to me that very few adequately realize their position in this respect. The fact, however, will ere long force itself upon the slowest observation, when, I hope, the result will be that, as I have on former occasions remarked, the Virgin Islands will prove a valuable stock farm for those West India Islands which lack a sufficient supply of animal food, and the lands in which are now more profitably devoted to the growth of the cane and other cultivation.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ALEX. W. MOIR,
President.

Governor Sir Benj. C. C. Pine, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT OF THE LATE HURRICANE IN TORTOLA.

1. In the month of October, 1867, this and others of the Virgin Islands were visited by a most terrific and desolating hurricane, causing fearful destruction both of human life and property. During the four years' immunity which these people enjoyed from such an awful calamity, they had endeavoured to repair their losses: but some of the poor people had not been able to provide themselves even with a comfortable dwelling, when, to their sore distress, another similar, though fortunately, less terrible catastrophe befell them.

2. On Sunday evening, August 20th, some boatmen, whilst rowing from West End to Road Town, remarked that there was something unusual in the motion of the wind and the appearance of the sea. There was an occasional and sudden whirling of the wind, checking the regular flow of the waves, and causing the sea to effervesce. But as there was nothing betokening ill overhead, they did not anticipate what was impending. The following morning, however, brought just cause for anxiety. The northern sky was dark and lowering; in fact, the whole heavens assumed a gloomy and angry aspect. A strong wind blew from the north, the quarter so much dreaded, and the murky clouds flitted with unwonted rapidity across the firmament. Road Town harbour presented a scene of awful grandeur. The white foam, which from the dashing waves spread over the surface of the water, was often, by the sudden and powerful whirl of the wind, carried up like smoke in curling columns till lost to view. The turbulent billows in quick succession dashed against the rocks, and rose in fury above the high cliffs to the mountain slopes; while the woeful wailing of the sea birds, so rarely seen or heard inland, seemed to herald the coming storm.

One can easily imagine that the people, who had fresh in their memories the dreadful cyclone and the still more horrifying earthquakes of 1867, regarded these phenomena as being ominous of the near approach of some Divine and disastrous visitation.

Many in the early part of the day left their little huts and rickety domiciles, and sought refuge in cellars and stronger built houses. Their apprehensions soon proved to be not merely imaginary.

The wind continued increasing in violence, till about 3 P.M., when it attained its height, and we found ourselves endangered by a devastating hurricane. Those of us who had never before witnessed a

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tropical gale, were not so seriously apprehensive of the danger as those who had. It is not strange that some of those who had witnessed the fatal cyclone of 1867 were half frantic with excitement at the prospect of another such disaster. However neglectful they had previously been in religious duties, in the time of their peril they failed not to call upon that Being whom wind and waves obey.

But when, with increasing violence of the wind, the work of destruction begun, when trees and buildings began to crack and fall prostrate before the raging storm, the stoutest heart might well quail. When, observing the ponderous iron roof of the Wesleyan chapel bend and crush and tear like buckram before the furious blast, whilst the sheets of zinc and large boards from the church and gaol roofs were incessantly whirling through the air, our fears were naturally aroused, and the inquiry excited, What will the end be? The fury of the tempest lasted, without intermission, from about 3 P.M. to 5 P.M., when we were cheered with a gradual lulling of the wind and clearing of the sky.

Information respecting the fall and rise of the barometer, indicating the atmospheric changes during the day, to some may be interesting. For this we are indebted to the kindness of his Honour the President.

The barometer at	1	o'clock	marked	29·85
"	"	2	"	29·74
"	"	3	"	29·65
"	"	3·45	"	29·55
"	"	4	"	29·50
"	"	4·20	"	29·40
"	"	4·50	"	29·26

At this hour the wind began to draw to the eastward, gradually veering to the south-east, and the barometer began to rise.

At	5·36	o'clock	it marked	29·32
"	5·40	"	"	29·36
"	6·10	"	"	29·45
"	6·30	"	"	29·50
"	7	"	"	29·55
"	7·45	"	"	29·62
"	9	"	"	29·70

During the whole of the night the wind continued howling dismally, as if vexed and unsatisfied with the mischief it had wrought. At times, terribly heavy gusts occurred, causing many to keep anxious vigil; the barometer rose but little, marking only 29·75 next morning. But the storm had passed, and though once or twice since we have felt somewhat apprehensive, because of atmospheric disturbance and other threatening indications, through Divine Providence we have hitherto been saved from further visitation.

From observations and reports, we gather that the diameter of the storm, when passing over this Colony, did not exceed 100 miles, and that its rate of progression to the west north-west, was about fourteen miles an hour. It appears that the centre of the hurricane passed over St. Thomas, which is a few miles to the south. and 20 miles to

the west of us, and that it lasted between seven and eight hours; that St. Croix was on the outer verge of the southern radius of the cyclone, and as that island lies about fifty miles from Tortola, and this island was in the northern radius, we think we are right in stating that the diameter of violent wind could not have been more than 100 miles in extent.

The damage done in Road Town is not so considerable as that in the country places, and especially on the quays, where, in addition to the loss of their dwelling, many have had their fishing boats, their chief, or only means of support, either partially or wholly destroyed.

In the town, the Wesleyan Society sustained the most serious injury. In the gale of 1867, their large and commodious chapel had its roof destroyed, which was replaced by an iron one, at the cost of about 1,000*l*. Now this roof also is entirely destroyed, and the chapel itself is sadly crushed. Their school-room, which resisted the former gale, in the latter was lifted bodily from its foundation, and then rent literally into fragments. The zinc from the roof of the Episcopal Church was badly stripped and a good portion of the gaol roof blown away. The public wharf, boat-house, and gun-shed, were also injured. Some of the smaller houses were shattered; others were forced by the combined action of wind and tidal waves into the street, forming right angles and various eccentrical figures. The sea at different places rose from 4 feet to 8 feet. The next day the streets and alleys looked as if deluged by the bursting of some sluice. Owing to timely precaution, the Government house, the public buildings, mission houses, and other large and strong buildings, received little or no damage. Happily, there were not many crafts in the port to be the sport of the breeze. The luckless steamer 'Telegrafa,' after breaking her moorings, and for some time drifting about the harbour, was ultmately dashed upon the beach, near the Government house, where she is likely to rest in memoriam, till she is taken to pieces.

But some of the country places and the quays presented scenes of mournful devastation. Not only were whole hamlets laid waste, and boats and sloops rent upon the reefs; but tall and strong trees in some instances were uprooted, in others their trunks and branches were broken off and thrown confusedly across the road-ways. Scarcely a leaf could be seen on any tree. The hills and dales which before were verdant with luxuriant vegetation, appeared as if really scorched by the withering blast.

Out of 16 huts in Peter's Island only one remained, and the poor people there were additionally distressed by the disabling of their fishing-boats and gear, upon which they almost entirely depend for their living. No place suffered worse than this. When their houses were swept away, and the sea rose threatening their lives also, the poor men carried their wives in alarm up the hill-side, and then returned again for their weeping children. Such was their hardship, that some of the men came to friends in Road Town to get bread to save their families from utter starvation.

At East End all the huts, except two, were damaged. Of the larger houses, three were completely ruined, and 14 injured. The Wesleyan Chapel also was blown to shivers.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Kingstown—the settlement of the liberated Africans—was miserably wasted. The hospital and most of the huts were destroyed, and some of the poor, old, and infirm people had to lie exposed on the open beach, until relieved by Government.

At Sea Cow Bay, nearly all the huts were destroyed, besides two sugar works unroofed and greatly injured.

At West End, the buildings on Belmont estate were blown down and the Custom House torn to pieces; one sugar works injured, and the labourers' huts carried away, and the Wesleyan Chapel (iron) completely shattered. Some of the large sheets of corrugated iron, and some stout iron window framing were blown nearly a mile from the site.

At Joe's Hill, Chalwills, and Mount Healthy, the huts have almost entirely disappeared.

At Thatch Island and Frenchman's Quay, out of 33 dwellings only three remained.

The above-mentioned places suffered most.

It would occupy too much space to notice, even cursorily, all the places which sustained *less* damage.

The islands of Anegada and Jost Von Dykes fortunately escaped with *less* injury to dwellings, but they sustained considerable loss by the destruction and retardation of fruits, vegetables, &c.

The saddest loss on the island of Virgin Gorda was that of the Episcopal Church. This wooden building, erected at the cost of 260*l.*, and consecrated by Bishop Jackson about a year ago, was not merely toppled over, but blown almost to atoms.

This island also was unfortunate in the loss of boats and sloops.

A more correct estimation of the actual losses sustained may be formed from the following summary:—

1 Episcopal Church, totally destroyed.
1 Episcopal Church injured.
1 Episcopal schoolhouse destroyed.
2 Wesleyan Chapels destroyed.
1 Wesleyan Chapel unroofed and injured.
1 Wesleyan schoolhouse destroyed.
Gaol much injured.
14 Sugar estates' works more or less injured.
Between 1,000 and 1,100 huts and houses either totally destroyed or injured.
58 sloops or boats lost or much injured.

The provision grounds were so stripped by the violence of the wind, or washed by the torrents of water, that but little produce could be reaped for three or four months.

Probable value of the entire loss, 6,000*l.*

Happily, we have to report but one case of death, as resulting directly from the gale; but many were severely bruised and maimed, and a great amount of sickness ensued from long exposure to damps and colds; and also from scarcity of food and clothing—hundreds of the poor people having been for some time not only houseless, but destitute of means requisite barely to sustain life. It was really distressing to witness the wretched condition into which so many were thrown. In many instances, whole families had to huddle themselves

together, under the remains of one hut, for shelter, which of course must have been inimical both to health and decency. But the patience and submission manifested under their distress were very noteworthy: they seemed satisfied to endure the loss of property, so long as life was spared.

To ascertain the actual losses and distress occasioned by the hurricane, his Honour the President, accompanied by other gentlemen, rode over the Island, and made a personal inspection and calculation of the damage sustained, so that in case aid could be obtained, it might be justly and proportionately distributed among the sufferers. His Honour also visited some of the quays for the same purpose. Partial relief, to the amount of 26*l.* 15*s.*, was immediately granted from the Colonial Treasury, which sum was chiefly expended in removing débris, and replacing the houses which obstructed our principal, and indeed, only street. The people were given to distinctly understand, that, as the revenue of the Colony was at the lowest ebb, pecuniary help could be given them only in the event of the President receiving aid from England and the sister Colonies: with which assurance they expressed themselves perfectly satisfied.

His Honour promptly appealed for aid to the several West Indian Governments, and from most of which he received munificent donations. The sympathy and generosity manifested by the sister Colonies to Tortola in her distress, is truly admirable, and will long live in the memories of grateful people.

We also owe a debt of gratitude to friends in St. Thomas, who, though their island was far worse ravaged than ours, unsolicited, showed their sympathy and liberality by sending timely aid to their poorer neighbours in Tortola.

We have also thankfully to acknowledge the receipt of our quota from the Mansion House Fund.

We have been further cheered with an unexpected and liberal donation from sympathizing friends in Edinburgh, promised through Dr. Moir, brother of his Honour the President.

Also from Barbados, we have received articles of clothing, through Mrs. Mends, daughter of Bishop Jackson.

The Appendix will show the various amounts received, and also the purposes to which the whole has been appropriated.

That these generous donations might be judiciously and impartially distributed among the sufferers, his Honour the President, on the 29th September, appointed for that purpose the following Committee, comprising the ministers of the different religious denominations, certain public officers and other private gentlemen, viz.:—

The Hon. J. Farrington, J.P.
The Rev. G. E. Yeo.
The Rev. J. Bishop.
J. B. Martin, Esq., J.P.
Dr. James Ogilvie.
H. R. Semper, Esq., J.P.
The Hon. J. G. Gordon, J.P.
The Rev. A. Kent.
Wm. Bagell, Esq.
Augt. McCleverty, Esq.
Henry S. Evans, Esq., J.P.
J. B. Crique, Esq., J.P.
Thomas Dawson, Esq., J.P.

These gentlemen met for the first time on the 2nd October, and

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continued their gratuitous labours until their work was accomplished —the President presiding over every meeting.

The Relief Committee have carefully guarded against imposition from persons not needing, or not entitled to relief.

The principle upon which the Committee acted in the distribution is this:—

(1.) Having made a careful calculation of the entire losses, and ascertained what compensation could be given for each, a certain sum was first of all voted for the repairing and rebuilding huts and houses. This was deemed the most urgent want of the people, many of whom, for weeks, had no better shelter than a few boards gathered from the ruins, and covered over with canvas or trash, under which they had to crawl, as dogs entering their kennel.

(2.) Proportionate aid was next given for the repairing or replacing of fishing-boats. The reason for this will be obvious, when it is considered that many of those whose boats were either lost or damaged had no other means of support than their fishing-craft.

(3.) The Committee then took into consideration the case of persons who had long been destitute and objects of charity, but whose poverty was greatly augmented in consequence of the hurricane. This category included the extremely aged, the blind and crippled, and bed-ridden, and some indeed who were actually pining away for want of suitable and efficient nourishment. It will appear that no cases of distress offered stronger claims for sympathy and help than these; and the Committee, in relieving such, felt confident in fulfilling the design of the generous donors to the Relief Fund, some donations having been sent for this special purpose.

(4.) Proportional compensation was next granted to the owners of sugar estates whose works had been either injured or destroyed. Tortola cannot now, as in her palmy days, boast of wealthy estate proprietors, and the relation existing between the labourer and the estate owners here is very different from that in other and larger Colonies. The principle upon which they work is this:—Those small farmers who cultivate canes upon their own land, allow to the owner of the sugar works one-third of their sugar as payment for its manufacture. Others who cultivate a plot belonging to the same owner as the sugar-mill, receive one-half of the sugar as their proportion, the other half being claimed by the proprietor of the land and sugar-mill, as an equivalent for rent and manufacturing expenses. So that the labourer is equally interested with the proprietor in the speedy restoration of the sugar works, at least to a condition to manufacture sugar. Without the assistance given from the Relief Fund, inadequate as it has been, these works might not have been repaired in time to save the approaching crop, which, owing to plentiful rains, promises to be an abundant one. A sum of money, therefore, has been divided among 14 mill proprietors, being about one-third of their actual losses, exclusive of canes and manufactured sugar destroyed.

In conclusion, this Report will show that the relief granted to the sufferers has been far from equivalent for their losses; yet, whilst it has saved many from sheer distress and want, it has afforded timely aid to all. And the Committee, on behalf of the community, beg to render their most sincere thanks, first of all to God, from whom all

blessings flow, and also to all the kind sympathizing friends who have so nobly helped us with their generous donations; and, while the poor and needy have been benefited, we pray that their benefactors may ever enjoy the blessings of Him who has said, "*He that giveth to the poor shall not lack.*"

As the labours of the Committee of Relief have now come to a close, the members of the said Board deem it their respectful duty to express their high appreciation of the incessant efforts of his Honour President Moir to relieve the necessities of the distressed and suffering inhabitants of the Virgin Islands by the late hurricane. They also desire to record the impartial and expeditious manner in which his Honour has conducted the several sittings of the Board. A true gentlemanly courtesy has always distinguished his Honour; and, to this may be attributed the general unanimity that has existed among the members of the Committee in the administration of relief.

The spirit of thankfulness manifested generally by the recipients of the pecuniary relief has been ample compensation for the somewhat arduous task imposed upon the several members of the Board.

Unanimously adopted at a full meeting of the Hurricane Relief Committee, held at the Court House, Tortola, on Friday, the 1st March, 1872, and ordered to be entered on the Minutes.

C. CRANDALL, Secretary.

STATEMENT of the RECEIPTS, and of the DISTRICTS and OBJECTS embraced in the DISTRIBUTION, by the RELIEF COMMITTEE, of FUNDS entrusted to their charge from 3rd OCTOBER, 1871, to 1st MARCH, 1872.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS.	Amounts. £	s.	d.
To cash from Colonial Treasury	26	15	0
„ St. Thomas, per Rev. G. E. Yeo	22	16	8
„ Barbados, per Governor Rawson	375	0	0
„ Demerara, per Governor Scott	416	13	4
„ Montserrat, per President Adlum	25	0	0
„ St. Thomas, per Peter Cameron, Esq.	10	8	4
„ St. Lucia, per Administrator DeVœux	100	0	0
„ St. Vincent, per Lieut.-Governor Rennie	74	13	10
„ Grenada, per Lieut.-Governor Freeling	90	0	0
To clothing from Mrs Mends, Antigua	5	0	0
To cash from Mansion House, per Administrator Baynes	200	0	0
To premium on Bills	29	13	2
To cash from Sir B. Pine, being proportion allotted to the Virgin Islands, from sums placed at his disposal	297	16	0
	£1,673	16	4

Relief Committee Room, Tortola,
1st March, 1872.

C. CRANDALL, Secretary.

We, the duly appointed Audit Commissioners of the Virgin Islands, certify that we have examined the above statement, and compared it with the Nominal Lists, the Treasurer's Cash Book, and the several vouchers and original letters, and find it correct.

JAMES B. MARTIN.
HENRY S. HARRIGAN.
WILLIAM BAGNALL.

DISTRICTS.	Huts and Houses. £	s.	d.	Helpless and Destitute. £	s.	d.	Crafts and Boats. £	s.	d.	Sugar Estates' Works. £	s.	Total. £	s.	d.
Anegada	5	0	0	23	0	0	10	5	0	—		38	5	0
Beef Island	—			—			1	10	0	—		1	10	0
Buck Island	1	7	4	—			—			—		1	7	4
Frenchman's Cay	5	13	4	2	0	0	4	0	0	—		11	13	4
Jost Van Dykes	42	4	6	18	16	0	3	2	8	—		64	3	2
Peter's Island	36	8	6	7	10	0	8	0	0	—		51	18	6
Salt Island	5	0	8	0	10	0	0	6	0	—		5	16	8
Thatch Island	24	12	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	—		29	12	0
Tortola	664	19	4	311	17	4	59	16	6	256	10	1,293	3	2
Virgin Gorda	28	5	4	48	10	0	20	14	0	—		97	9	4
	813	11	0	414	3	4	110	14	2	256	10	1,594	18	6

	£	s.	d.
By paid for removing débris, replacing huts, and relief to urgent cases, previous to 3rd October, 1871	26	15	0
By paid for freight, and specie, and clothing	1	6	4
„ boat hire and expenses at Jost Van Dykes	3	12	6
„ „ „ Virgin Gorda	2	0	0
„ „ „ Anegada	1	0	0
„ „ „ Tortola and Cays	10	0	0
By value of clothing distributed	5	0	0
„ C. Crandall, for duties as secretary	5	0	0
„ grant to the widow and children of the late treasurer, Farrington	15	0	0
By postage	0	16	0
„ printing	8	8	0
	£1,673	16	4

[J. C. R.]

DOMINICA.

No. 19.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Acting Governor BAYNES to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Leeward Islands, Antigua, September 25, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Dominica for 1871, with a Report from Mr. President Moir.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWIN BAYNES,
Administrator of Government,
Leeward Islands.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

(No. 35.)

SIR, President's Office, Roseau, September 11, 1872.

I have the honour to forward to your Excellency duplicate bound copies of the Blue Book of Dominica for the year 1871, which, owing to the sickness of the late Auditor, and other concurrent events, was not completed until last month.

2. As I arrived here towards the close of the month of June last, I cannot of my own knowledge give any explanation of many of the results, but must confine myself to the record of the most prominent and generally interesting features exhibited in the Schedules of the Blue Book for the past year.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources for the last two years is shown as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For 1870 - - -	15,721	9	8
„ 1871 - - - -	15,439	18	4
Decrease - -	£281	11	4

The items in which is shown a falling off of more than 40*l.* are the following:—

	£	s.	d.
Imports - - - - - - - -	42	15	0½
Exports - - - - - - - -	149	11	1
Liquor and still licences - - - -	54	13	4
Fine, penalties, and forfeitures - - -	172	5	3
Rent of Ordnance property - - -	197	13	0
Other items - - - - - - -	138	6	2½
	755	3	11

In like manner the increase is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.			
Tonnage dues - - -	44	19	2			
Excise rum duties - - -	266	13	9½			
Other items - - -	161	19	7½			
				473	12	7
Decrease as above - -				£281	11	4

4. The decrease in exports is attributed to diminished exports and abolition of duty on firewood.

For local purposes an additional ten per centum was chargeable on liquor and still licences up to 31st December, 1869. Many intending applicants for such therefore declined making requisition for them till January, 1870; consequently a large increase appeared in that year's revenue under this head, and a natural falling off in 1871; but not in an equal proportion, for in 1870 the increase is put down at 279*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, while the decrease in 1871 was only 54*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

No reason is assigned for the great decrease in fines, penalties, and forfeitures, but it has come to my knowledge that such have been very irregularly paid into the Treasury. This is now rectified, and all such when collected will, in future, appear in the Blue Book for the year to which it has reference.

Large arrears of rents for Ordnance property were collected in 1870, and thus the receipts in 1871 are proportionally small.

5. The increased receipts under tonnage is attributed to the greater number of large vessels entered at Roseau during 1871, and the increase under the head of Excise rum duties is ascribed partly to a larger consumption of rum, and partly to less illicit traffic. I think it might fairly have been added, to more careful supervision and activity on the part of the Excise officers.

Expenditure.

6. The total expenditure was, in 1870, 15,248*l.* 4*s.* 2½*d.*; and in 1871, 16,071*l.* 7*s.* 7½*d.* Increase, 823*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.*

The items in which there appears an increase over 40*l.* are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Administration of justice	173	4	8
Revenue department	43	16	1½
Public Works	50	5	1
Board of Health	431	2	5
Grant to Roman Catholics	100	0	0
„ Wesleyans	120	0	0
„ sufferers, Guadeloupe	100	0	0
„ Roads	136	5	0
Census expenditure	250	0	0
Superannuation returned	42	13	8
Other items	16	3	1½
	1,463	10	1

A decrease is shown under the following heads of expenditure as compared with 1870:—

	£	s.	d.			
Civil establishment	131	15	3			
Roads and bridges	463	0	4			
Other items	45	11	1			
				640	6	8
Increase in expenditure as above				£823	3	5

7. The increase in expenditure for the administration of justice is accounted for by the payment of full, instead of half, salary to the magistrate of District B, and increased incidental charges.

Under the head of Board of Health the establishment and fitting up of hospitals for the treatment of Yaws patients has been the cause of the large increase in that department. The other items explain themselves.

8. The decrease under Civil Establishment arose from the cessation of the pay to a harbour-master and the transfer of some small charges to other heads of expenditure.

9. The net cash balances to the credit of the Government on the 31st December were—

	£	s.	d.
General Revenue - - - - -	1,276	10	1½
Invested in Colonial Bank at 4 per cent.	1,500	0	0
„ „ at 3 „	651	17	2
	3,428	7	3½
Balance of Loan Liquidation account (in deposit for Jetty) - - - -	200	0	0
	£3,628	7	3½

Public Debt.

10. An Act was passed on 23rd November, 1859, to repay with interest to Her Majesty's Government before the year 1881, by yearly instalments of 804*l.*, a loan amounting originally to 10,000*l.*, of which 6,203*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* had been repaid up to April, 1871, and 6,426*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* then remained due. This loan was obtained in March, 1836, to assist in repairing the damages sustained from the hurricane of two years previously.

Public Works and Roads.

11. The Civil Engineer and Inspector of Roads reports an expenditure of 2,294*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.* upon public works, and 154*l.* upon roads. The larger amounts embraced in the former sum were expended on the engineers' store, ornamental gardens, sea wall, aqueduct at Morne Bruce, and Yaws hospitals. Very much remains to be done in this direction, the public buildings appearing to have been long neglected, and allowed to get into a sad state of disrepair. In addition to the latter amount, a further sum of 1,734*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* was spent by the Commissioners of Roads from the commutation money paid by those subject to statute labour. The maintenance of roads is here an expensive item, the frequent heavy rains and floods often washing away work which had just been completed.

Legislation.

12. Fifteen Acts were passed during the year, of which two had reference to the electric telegraph. One was enacted repealing the provisions of the Superannuation Act, one for taking the Census, one to facilitate the naturalization of aliens, while the rest were of minor importance.

Population.

13. The Census, taken in November, 1871, returns the population as numbering 12,737 males, and 14,441 females, showing an excess of 1,704 females over males, and an increase of the total population of 2,113 during the previous ten years. The males have increased at the rate of 7·66 per cent., and the females at 9·11 per cent. The division of the people, according to religious belief, was as follows:—

Roman Catholics	24,012
Wesleyans	2,256
Episcopalians	888
Moravians	14
Undescribed	8
	27,178

The birthplace of the population is given thus—

Born in Dominica	25,962
„ Foreign West Indies	467
„ British West Indies	358
„ Africa	297
„ Europe	55
„ India	24
„ Madeira	11
„ United States	2
„ British North America	1
„ South America	1
	27,178

The classification as to the occupations of the people is made to appear as

Agricultural—	
Labourers	10,081
Small proprietors	713
Planters	224
Managers	78
Ploughmen	8
Stock-keepers	13
Commercial	1,113
Official	71
Professional—	
Clergymen	14
Friars	2
Nuns	11
Medical men	3
Druggists	4
Barristers	2
School teachers	40

"People to the number of 1,971 were returned as engaged in domestic pursuits, but the number includes paid servants, as well as

the wives of working men attending to the household duties of homes where no servants are employed.

"Of the non-productive portion of the community there were 295 paupers and orphans, 32 prisoners, 9,592 children under age and people unoccupied or living on their incomes."

The remainder—about 3,000 souls—comprise those occupied in the several trades which have been fully described in the Tables attached to the Report furnished by the Registrar-General, and transmitted to your Excellency by last mail.

Ecclesiastical.

14. One Roman Catholic Bishop, assisted by eleven priests, ministers to an average attendance of 6,850 people. The Episcopalian clergyman has an average attendance of 250, and the Wesleyan Missionary and his leaders claim an average of 1,250 worshipping in a chapel and five preaching stations. All the denominations are now supported by voluntary contributions.

Education.

15. I have been so closely engaged with other important duties since my arrival, that I have been unable to make any systematic examination into the working of existing scholastic institutions; and as I deprecate coming to any crude or hasty conclusions on this highly interesting subject which has for long engaged the attention of so many able men, I prefer now to subjoin the Report of the Inspector, which will be found interesting and suggestive.

Imports and Exports.

16. The value of imports and exports for the year 1871 are returned as follows:—

	Imports from				Exports to		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Great Britain - -	23,356	15	2	-	49,940	8	4
British West Indies -	33,135	10	1	-	2,423	19	10
Foreign West Indies -	4,877	15	4	-	1,130	11	3
United States - - -	600	0	0	-	1,462	10	0
	£61,970	0	7	-	£5,4957	9	5

The quantity and value of the principal articles of export for the last five years are given below.

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of PRODUCE EXPORTED during FIVE YEARS.

	Sugar.				Molasses.				Rum.				Cocoa.				Coffee.			
	Cwt.	Value.			Gallons.	Value.			Gallons.	Value.			lbs.	Value.			lbs.	Value.		
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1867	56,337	81,825	10	0	54,400	1,893	15	0	55,063	3,419	2	0	189,224	5,562	10	0	23,913	790	18	4
1868	68,942	100,291	15	0	95,520	3,419	10	0	49,740	3,111	0	0	173,980	2,560	10	2	9,877	249	10	8
1869	65,650	45,954	14	1	90,940	3,182	18	0	45,719	3,428	18	6	225,922	3,291	15	11	15,214	380	7	0
1870	73,203	51,146	13	0	88,732	2,732	3	0	36,021	2,336	10	0	135,439	2,525	5	10	10,603	989	5	6
1871	66,220	46,355	13	9	94,015	1,921	4	6	40,615	2,544	13	0	213,433	2,319	1	9	15,734	379	2	2
	330,352	325,574	5	10	423,607	13,149	10	6	227,158	14,840	3	6	937,998	16,259	3	8	75,341	2,789	3	8

DOMINICA.

17. The number and tonnage of vessels entering and clearing during the year were as follows :—

VESSELS ENTERED IN 1871.

	In Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British - - -	160	9,278	82	1,831	242	11,109
Foreign - - -	38	957	31	682	69	1,639
	198	10,235	113	2,513	311	12,748

VESSELS CLEARED IN 1871.

	In Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British - - -	242	10,731	17	303	259	11,034
Foreign - - -	44	919	16	538	60	1,457
	286	11,650	33	841	319	12,491

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ALEX. W. MOIR,
President.

His Excellency the Administrator,
&c. &c. &c.

APPENDIX TO MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

To HIS HONOUR THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Dominica, July 25, 1872.

Fourth Annual Report of the Inspector of Schools under the "Educational Act, 1867," for the year ending 31st December, 1871.

1. The salient point in connection with the subject of Education in Dominica which distinguishes us from the Islands both to windward and leeward, except Trinidad, is the following, viz. the Board of Education takes the initiative in the work; being required by the law to keep up one school at least in each parish for the reception of children of every creed. This plan has by experience proved to be the one more suitable to our circumstances than that which prevails elsewhere, and which, until the passing of Mr. Forster's Act in 1870, prevailed also in England, of leaving this great enterprise to the Christian Churches, the State assisting them by pecuniary grants, and opening schools only where the churches happen to have none.

At the same time the Dominica Board is empowered to give assistance to any other school, if under the direction of a Minister of religion.

The pressure of the Board and on their Inspector must of course be far heavier here than it is under the system of mere "assistance" to schools: for besides the periodical examination of the schools

common to both systems, the Inspector here has the immediate oversight of each teacher and each school, receiving monthly 17 or 18 long rolls of the daily attendance and the daily absence of the pupils, which must be checked and tabulated, and he must see that each school is duly furnished with books and furniture, and he is a constant referee for advice and direction, and all this at varied and uncertain periods, as the opportunity of communication with the out-parishes occur.

Details like the foregoing are under the "Denominational" system necessarily kept by the Ministers themselves to whom the schools respectively belong; the Inspector receiving no doubt one Schedule of all the information from the head of each religious denomination.

This sketch is here introduced with the view of strengthening any modifications that may be suggested for enabling the Inspector to see the schools oftener. Even after the two yearly tours of the Inspector through our rugged and mountainous Island for the purpose of the individual examination of the children and of the teachers are performed, and several of the schools, as is the case, "looked" into besides by him repeatedly during the intervals, there is still an unavoidable deficiency in that wholesome surveillance with the best teachers, some of them solitarily situated, demand. This is a matter very strongly put by Mr. Keenan in his able Report of the Schools at Trinidad, which he was especially sent out by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies to inspect. It was with the view of supplementing this lack to a certain extent, that at the beginning of this year a circular was addressed to Magistrates and other gentlemen of influence, inviting them in the name of the Board of Education to visit the country schools when travelling in the vicinity of them, and to be so good as to write on the back of the school roll, which is sent monthly to the Inspector, any remarks respecting the efficiency of the school or otherwise which they may consider proper.

Amongst these general remarks must be repeated the lament that still there is a multitude of children who would be at school but for the discreditable indifference of their parents. We look principally, but in many cases in vain, to the influence of the Ministers of religion to see this indifference dissipated, and the ability to read more fully explained to be essential to every interest in life.

The two Reports for the year 1871, respectively dated the 30th June and 31st December, have been duly supplied to the Board of Education by the Inspector.

The present Annual Report to the Executive, to be afterwards laid before the Legislature, is chiefly a combination of the contents of these documents under the headings required by law, viz.:—

1. *Number in School.*

The number of schools is 17, the Girls' and the Infants' schools having been combined into one as an experiment since the 1st August. These are under 17 teachers, besides 4 sewing mistresses in schools where the girls as well as the boys are under male teachers.

The total number of children on the lists is 1,273, being 13 less

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than we had 12 months ago. At the end of the June half-year there were 1,321 on the lists, so that 48 have been dropped during the last six months. Education has not, however, suffered, as the decrease is owing chiefly to the re-opening of a denominational school (Wesleyan) at Portsmouth.

The re-opening of the school formerly kept at Grand Bay has been urgently asked for during the year by petition from the people themselves, backed by the parish priest residing at Souffriere.

2. *Average Attendance.*

During the June half-year the average attendance was 652. In the December half-year it has been 656. Net average 654, whilst 12 months ago it was 670. This is discouraging, because 24 months ago it was 742 per diem.

One means adopted by the Board in 1871, in hopes of improving this item, has been to permit the teachers to retain a moiety of the weekly pence collected by them; but this does not appear to have as yet had the effect of prompting them to go out of their routine with the object of getting the children to attend better.

3. *Efficiency of the Schools.*

The individual examination of the schools gave more satisfaction at the December period than at the June half-year. The principal causes of complaint now are the long intervals that elapse before the parents furnish their children with copy-books after those last in use are full. The unsuitableness to the children's capacities of the copper-plate headings of many of the copies that are furnished by the parents.

For these faults some of the teachers are responsible in part. Others are altogether answerable for insufficient superintendence of the copy-book classes. Hence, although the handwriting is good, frequently very good, miswritten words are too often left uncorrected, because unobserved. Many of the children who write on slates, though they produce the required letters, yet show they are not taught to form them according to "rule." There is also in some teachers an inattention to suitable time tables for utilizing as much as possible the school hours. Some of the teachers are not punctual in the sending in of their school returns. At the suggestion of the President, a recess of fifteen minutes is now allowed between 9 and 12 o'clock for recreation.

4. *Progress in Knowledge.*

The following details will show the ascertained present condition of each school. Thus:—

ST. GEORGE—ROSEAU.

Boys' Central School.

Number on the list - - - -	88
Average attendance - - - -	65
Number individually examined - -	60
Number that advanced in progress -	59

The school is in a satisfactory state: the elder boys are gradually leaving school for trades. Hence eight of them will not return next year. The school includes children in the upper walks of society. The Inspector was not satisfied with the proficiency in spelling of the boys using the first and second books of lessons. The elder boys are very expert in arithmetic, and all of them do well in penmanship—the hobby of Creoles. Mr. Administrator Baynes visited the school in August and Mr. Administrator Porter in October, and both expressed themselves to Mr. Simon as pleased with the evidences of his diligence. In the public Christmas examination just held, his Honour Mr. Porter took part, as did also as usual his Honour the Chief Justice, a member of the Board.

2. *Girls' Central School.*

Miss Beroard, Teacher.

Number on the list - - - -	61
Average attendance - - - -	27
Number examined - - - -	30

The following is the Report for the June half-year :—

"The Inspector had reason to find much fault with this school, which he regrets the more as Miss Beroard has always stood high for ability. The girls are disorderly and inattentive. This the Inspector attributes very much to the want of good home example and training.

The December half-year's Report runs thus :—

"The December examination did not leave a satisfactory impression. In view of the falling off in the attendance, as well as what Miss Beroard considers to be 'party feeling' in regard to herself, the Inspector recommends that this school should for the present be combined with the infant school, which is under Miss Lockhart, and that Miss Beroard be put in charge of the school at the outlying village of Pointe Michelle, whose teacher, Mr. Rolle, has left the Island. Miss Lockhart should then receive $10 instead of $6 per month."

No. 3. *Infants' School.*

Miss Lockhart, Teacher.

Number on the list - - - -	74
Average attendance - - - -	50

This primary school was with the opening of the December half-year placed in charge of Miss Lockhart, recalled from Rosalie, instead of Miss Woodfield, who was promoted to the latter school. As will be seen above, the Inspector recommends that the girls' school, as an experiment, be combined with this under Miss Lockhart. She has done well whilst in charge of these infants.

No. 4. *Balahout Town.*

Number on the list - - - -	33
Average attendance - - - -	18

Miss Jane Stewart has had hard work with these wild little creatures, whom we are endeavouring to tame and to teach. She

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had to seek change of air for a couple of months in a neighbouring island. The children progress slowly. There were 19 present at the examination, of whom 13 read and spelt fluently, 8 being in the third book, 4 in the second book, 2 in the first book, 2 in boards, and 3 in the alphabet.

St. Paul No. 5. *Mahaut.*

Number on the list - - - -	41
Average attendance - - - -	19

This school does not show much progress, though Miss Stewart is a competent teacher. The irregularity of the attendance on the part of the children is the principal impediment. At the June examination 18 attended. At the December one, 19 attended.

No. 6. *St. Joseph.—Village of St. Joseph.*

Number on the list - - -	102
Average attendance - - - -	39

In December 40 were examined, only a few had progressed. Mrs. Aubrey's health is often bad. The village is not a salubrious one.

No. 7. *Coulibistrie.*

Number on the list - - - -	40
Average attendance - - - -	24

Miss Retier's difficulties here are the irregularity of the children's attendance and the unreasonable complaints of the parents of the want of greater progress, notwithstanding 31 were examined in December.

St. Peter.—No. 8. *Colihaut.*

Number on the list - - - -	85
Average attendance - - - -	47

This is one of the most satisfactory schools. There being no sugar estates in the neighbourhood, there is no temptation to put the children to earning "copper" before the proper age. Many of the parents are themselves independent small landowners. In the fourth and fifth books, which contain instruction of as high a kind as is given in private schools of the first class, there were examined 12 children, who moreover understand what they read. The number of pupils is rather too many for one female teacher, and the inspector must in due time move the Board's consideration of the point. 35 have been advanced from higher to lower claims during the year.

No. 9. *Du Blanc.*

Number on the list - - - -	40
Average attendance - - - -	20

The number that underwent examination in December was 26, belonging to classes respectively using books from No. 1 to No. 4. The majority read fluently. Against 14 names is the Inspector's

private mark, indicating that those understand the meaning of their reading lessons. Until English is spoken out of school, this small ratio must continue. The handwriting is good, so is the knowledge of arithmetic. Three of the children worked the following impromptu sum easily:—"Required the cost of 4½ barrels of coffee, of 52 pots each barrel, at 2*s.* 3*d.* per pot." Mr. Hypolite's attainments, as well as his salary, which is the highest on the Board's rates, would better suit a larger and more advanced school, and a change must soon be proposed.

Want of funds has prevented the Inspector from urging the Board to authorize him to appoint a sewing mistress for the girls who attend.

St. John.—No. 10. *Portsmouth Boys.*

Number on the list - - - -	79
Average attendance - - - -	49

A few of the boys examined showed progress, but the majority were stationary. This must be owing to the irregularity of their attendanee, for Mr. Bell is zealous. During the year several have been removed to the Wesleyan Day School, recently opened.

No. 11. *Portsmouth Girls' School.*

Number on the list - - - -	37
Average attendance - - - -	22
Number examined - - - -	26

This school also has suffered in number. Miss Fournier continues an acceptable teacher.

St. Andrew.—No. 12. *Vieille Case.*

Number on the list - - - -	116
Average attendance - - - -	53

The children here have made perceptible progress, most of those marked in the Inspector's Book at last Examination as respectively "bad," "tolerable," and "nearly fluent," in reading, being found this time entitled to the higher designation. The same remark applies to the sums in arithmetic. The great drawback still is the entire absence of the English language in the settlement. From the parish priest (though he *can* speak English) to the meanest person, every one speaks French, so that it is painful to witness so much fluency of reading and spelling and fair handwriting too, with complete ignorance of the lessons, except in the case of one in every eight children. Mr. Rolle exercises the children during school-hours in the English names of the more ordinary nouns and verbs.

No. 13. *Salybia.* (Charibs.)

Number on the list - - - -	37
Average attendance - - - -	15

This school was re-opened in February, after a suspension of four months for want of a teacher. The assembling of these very peculiar

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children in the form of a daily school under a teacher who loves his work, is improving them in behaviour. They also make very fair progress in the art of reading. Charibs are remarkable for taciturnity, but what little they do say is in "patois," and this is the difficulty. Several write and also cipher. Mr. Patrick Castor, a former schoolmaster, accompanied the Inspector to Salybia, and witnessed the examinations of the children with surprise, being of opinion that they did well.

No. 14. *Rosalie School.—Parish of St. David.*

Number on the list	50
Average attendance	38
Number examined	44

Of those who each use a Book from No. 1 to No. 5, in contradistinction to those reading, several in a class, around one large Board-Lessons, either of words or of the letters of the alphabet, the following note was made at the examination :—

Fluent	9
Nearly fluent	9
Tolerable	12
Bad	7

Only ten children showed copy-books : the others write on slates supplied by the funds of the Board. 22 did a sum each in arithmetic, but only in the simple rules ; though they have been at school quite long enough to cipher further. Several answered correctly as to the parts of speech. The children's handwriting is below the usual good standard. They attend pretty well. The teacher, Miss Woodfield, promoted this year from the Roseau Infants' school to take Miss Lockhart's place here, seems to be liked by the people.

No 15. *Laplaine.—Parish of St. Patrick.*

Number on the list	106
Average attendance	40
Number examined	44

This is one of the best schools under the Board : the teacher is indefatigable and the children delight in their lessons. Six of them read fluently in the 5th Book, and 8 in the 3rd Book : the rest read tolerably : all spelled creditably. Those in the 2nd and 1st Book did not do so well, having evidently been left too much to the monitors. There are only ten children who have not passed the Alphabet Class. Several select pieces, previously committed to memory, were recited very correctly ; e. g. "My Mother," "My Neighbour," "The Better Land." They are striving at speaking English, though they find it hard work, as the following specimens indicate. On being desired to write spontaneously on their slates something before the Inspector, one boy, who had been very ill, produced the following, "I have twelve *month* I loss." Another wrote, My schoolmaster *is teach* well, and I will put my mind to learn." One girl pencilled to her thoughts thus, "*She have* a plenty

days I not coming to school. if I read bad—told me;" whilst another's original ran thus, "Dear Mr. Fillan, I very hungry to see you, If I cannot read I very ashamed." A complaint preferred by the head of the family residing close to the school-house against the schoolmaster, who is an unmarried man, of impropriety of conduct, was investigated on the spot by the Inspector. The case was deemed "not proven."

No. 16. *Laroche.*

Number on the list - - - -	96
Average attendance - - - -	47

At the examination, which took place on the 1st inst., there were

Reading 5th Book - - - - -	4		
„ 4th „ - - - -	3		
„ 2nd „ - - - -	11	44	
„ 1st „ - - - -	13		
„ Board and alphabet - -	13		

The children here are most remarkable for imitating their master's good handwriting, and for their fondness of trying to speak the "Queen's English" under difficulties.

No. 17. *Souffriere.—Parish of St. Mark.*

Number on the list - - - -	78
Average attendance - - - -	55

The vicissitudes to which this school has for some time been exposed in regard to an acceptable teacher, were brought to a close this half-year by the appointment by the Board, on the 1st, of Mr. Jacob, from St. Lucia. He brought first-class testimonials as to capacity. He is "high up," having been trained in the Mico Establishment, at Antigua, and so is a professional teacher. The Inspector has repeatedly seen him at work at Souffrière. The first examination of his school took place on the 8th ult., and was very satisfactory. The attendance has greatly increased.

No. 18. *Point Michelle School.—St. Luke.*

Number on the list - - - -	82
Average attendance - - - -	37

The June half-yearly Report states, "This has been a trying half-year to this school. The death of Mr. Bennett, the teacher, is a great loss to the Board." The December Report states: "For the first three months of this half-year Mr. Charles Rolle was in charge of this school, but, having quitted the island, Mr. Edwards, who had acted there before for the late Mr. Bennett, has since the 1st of October been in temporary charge. He has been pretty diligent. Some of the children gave satisfaction to the Inspector at the examination."

5. *Religious Instructions.*

This being left by law exclusively to the ministers of religion, or such persons as may be authorized by them, the Inspector's province is to only report that it is fully understood in each parish that the children in the Board's schools are always kept ready for this instruction one afternoon each week during school hours. The provision is taken advantage of at the following places only, viz.:

St. Joseph,

Colihaut (where the Abbé Figari, resident priest, encourages the attendance of the children at the school),

Portsmouth,
Salybia,
Laroches,
Souffrière,
Point Michelle.

It thus appears that the will of the Legislature, expressed in the Educational Law, is not sufficiently carried out under the instrumentality prescribed, and it is matter for consideration whether instruction of so important a nature should not be imparted through some other channel. At Vieille Case, for instance, the parents would gladly pay a competent religious person there, to instruct their children if the Board would allow them (failing a willingness on the part of the Minister) to send him or her to the school-house for the purpose. Fortunately the "Lesson Books" contain chapters treating in a general way of the children's moral obligations, and of the historical parts of the Bible, and some of the teachers make them repeat Dr. Watt's rhymes about the evils of idleness, lying, stealing, and such like.

6. *School-houses.*

Those belonging to the Colony are in fair order, except the one at Dublanc, which still requires re-shingling, and the Portsmouth school-house, which is under repair. The hired houses are in fair condition, except at Coulibistrie and at Vieille Case; the last requires re-shingling.

Cost of the Schools.

The following is the total for the year ending this day:—

	£	s.	d.
Salaries of teachers	567	1	8
Rent of school-houses	63	18	6
Inspector's salary	100	0	0
" travelling expenses	20	0	0
Grant to Wesleyan Methodist School	20	0	0
	771	0	2
Annual grant	750	0	0
Excess	£21	0	2

Amount of fees received and expended during the year ended 31st December, 1871.

	£	s.	d.
Moiety of fees collected during above period.			
June half-year - - - - - -	28	8	5
December half-year - - - - - -	17	13	3¼
	£46	1	8¼
Expenditure for books, school furniture, travelling of teachers, printing, rewards, &c.	£46	1	8¼

All of which I beg to report accordingly.

C. A. FILLAN,
Inspector.

[J. C. B.]

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PAPERS

RELATING TO

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

PART II.—1873.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
March, 1873.



LONDON:
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1873.

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PART II.

CEYLON.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor GREGORY to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

The Pavilion, Kandy, Ceylon,
August 3, 1872.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1871. As I was not in this Island last year, having arrived here only in the beginning of March last, I will confine my Report to a mere statistical review of the results exhibited in the returns.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue for 1871 was - - - - £1,121,679
The expenditure for ditto - - - - 1,064,184

Excess of revenue over expenditure - £57,495

3. As compared with 1870, the revenue of 1871 shows an increase of 30,073*l.*

	£
1871 - -	1,121,679
1870 - -	1,091,606
	£30,073

4. The following are the principal items of increase:—

Arrears of revenue 9,021*l.*, the result of a change in the system of accounts. In former years the recoveries of arrears of Paddy Commutation and Assessment Tax were brought to account as current revenue; whilst they are now classified as arrears.

Land sales, 31,243*l.* This includes a sum of 14,477*l.* realized by sales of military reserves and buildings in the fort of Colombo, the proceeds of which are applied to the reconstruction and improvement of the barracks for the troops. Omitting this item the increase under this head amounts to 16,765*l.*, which is attributable mainly to the demand for coffee land in the Central Province.

Licences, arrack, rum, and toddy, 20,287*l.* This increase the Auditor-General states "is partly a matter of account, the revenue "for the Kurunégala District and of Mannár having been collected "in aumany during the first half year of 1870; a sum of 6,489*l.* col- "lected from this source, therefore figures under 'Sale of Govern- "ment Property' in 1870. There was, however, a general rise in "the prices paid for arrack rents, amounting to no less than 38,000*l.* "for the renting year (1st July, 1872, to 1st July, 1873), which was "caused partly by a return of confidence after the heavy losses

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"experienced in 1866, 1867, and partly by anticipated profits in "the Central Province from the labour employed on the Nawalapitiya "Railway extension."

Under the head of "Licences" there is also an increase of 425*l.* in the item of "Elephants." This is a new source of revenue arising from the duty levied under Ordinance No. 13 of 1869, on the licences for the capture of elephants, and on their exportation.

Fines and forfeitures, 3,242*l.*, due to the discovery and confiscation sale of a large quantity of illegally felled timber in the Eastern Province.

Government vessels, 695*l.*, a new source of revenue consequent on the arrival of the colonial steamer 'Serendib.'

5. There is a decrease of revenue under the following heads:—

Imports, 5,244*l.*, owing to a falling off in the importation of certain goods in 1871.

Land revenue, paddy, 17,045*l.*, caused chiefly by an alteration in the system of account, the collections which formerly figured as revenue being now returned under the head of Arrears; also by a partial failure of crops and other causes.

Sale of Government property, arrack, and rum. The decrease under this head is owing, as already explained, to the collections made in aumany in 1870, amounting to 6,489*l.*, having been brought to account in 1870 under the head of Sale of Government Property; whereas the farms appear under the head Licences" in 1871.

Miscellaneous receipts, repayment for deficiency of troops, 2,679*l.* The repayment was less in 1871 than in 1870, as there was a larger number of troops in the Island in the former year, in consequence partly of the withdrawal of a detachment of the Ceylon Rifles from Labuan.

Railway receipts, 5,849*l.*, occasioned by the shortness of the coffee crop of 1871.

6. The expenditure of 1871 amounted to 1,064,184*l.*; that of 1870 was 1,026,870*l.*, showing an increase of 37,314*l.*

7. The increase of 2,243*l.* under the head of "Revenue Services," was caused by the larger expenditure incurred in 1871 for collecting and storing salt in the Southern Province. The large increase under the head of "Police and Gaols," was owing to the payment of a sum of 18,443*l.* to the Government of India for expenses on account of the Ceylon convicts at the Straits Settlements, from 1867 to 1870. There is a decrease of 4,038 under the head of "Works and Buildings," and an increase of 3,118*l.* on roads, streets, and bridges. Under the head of "Miscellaneous," the large increase of 17,071*l.* appears. This is accounted for by the refund of 14,477*l.*, value of lands sold in the fort, the payment of remuneration to Mr. Townshend for reporting on harbour accommodation, and the cost of new stamps, dies, &c. The decrease of 12,998*l.* under the head of "Colonial Store," is chiefly owing to the cost of certain stores, &c., indented for from England, being charged against the respective departments, and not as formerly against this vote. There is an increase of 4,670*l.* under the head of "Government Vessels," being expenditure incurred for the maintenance of the crew, &c., of the new colonial steamer 'Serendib,' and a decrease of 2,033*l.* on "Railway Services," attri-

butable to a smaller expenditure in 1871 for additional station accommodation.

Assets and Liabilities.

8. The assets of the Colony on the 31st December, 1871, amounted to 371,676*l.* The liabilities amounted to 243,896*l.*, showing a balance in favour of the Government of 127,780*l.* Omitting from the statement of assets the sum of 30,000*l.* on account of arrears of revenue outstanding, believed to be recoverable, and 3,000*l.* on account of surcharges outstanding; and deducting also from the statement of liabilities, the item of 10,405*l.* on account of drafts outstanding, the actual balance of the Colony available for appropriation on the 31st December, 1871, amounted to 105,186*l.* This is, however, subject to a further deduction to meet liability on account of the cost of the copper coin received from the Calcutta Mint, the exact amount of which has not yet been ascertained. Estimating it at 15,000*l.*, and deducting this from the above sum of 105,186*l.*, the balance will be reduced to 90,186*l.*

Imports and Exports.

9. The value of goods imported in 1871, exclusive of specie, was 3,912,811*l.*, showing a decrease of 180,796*l.*, as compared with that of 1870, which amounted to 4,093,607*l.* There was also a decrease of 201,634*l.* on the exports, the value for the two years having been—1870, 3,754,533*l.*; 1871, 3,552,899*l.*

10. Adding to these the specie imported and exported, the total value of the imports and exports of 1871, as compared with the preceding year, stands thus:—

IMPORTS.

	£
1870	4,634,297
1871	4,797,952

EXPORTS.

	£
1870	3,803,730
1871	3,634,853

11. The total value of goods (exclusive of specie) imported and retained in the Colony during 1871, amounted to 3,503,321*l.*, viz.:—

	£
Imports, exclusive of specie	3,912,811
Deduct imports exported	409,490
Goods retained	£3,503,321

12. The total value of specie imported and retained in the Island during 1871, amounted to 803,187*l.*, viz.:—

	£
Specie imported	885,141
„ exported	81,954
Specie retained	£803,187

CEYLON.

13. The total value, therefore, of goods and specie imported and retained in the Island during 1871, amounted to 4,306,508*l.*, as follows:—

	£
Goods retained - - - -	3,503,321
Specie „ - - - - -	803,187
Goods and specie retained -	£4,306,508

14. The total value of Ceylon produce exported in 1871 amounted to 3,143,409*l.*, viz.:—

	£
Exports, exclusive of specie - - -	3,552,899
Deduct imports exported - - - -	409,490
Ceylon produce - - -	£3,143,409

15. I subjoin the following explanatory Report, furnished by the Principal Collector of Customs, in submitting the Customs returns for 1871.

"The trade of Ceylon was almost stationary in 1871 compared with 1870; but has increased compared with 1869. The total trade (imports and exports) for 1871, was 8,433,000*l.*; for 1870, 8,438,000*l.*; and for 1869, 8,266,000*l.*, showing a falling off of 5,000 in 1871 compared with 1870; and an increase of 167,000*l.* compared with the year before that. The totals in the Table of Imports and Exports show that imports exceed exports in value by about a million a year. This may be accounted for to some extent by the fact that while nearly all specie imported is entered at the Custom House, very little of that exported is entered, being taken away on the persons of native passengers proceeding to India; and there is evidently a balance of trade against the Island. The importations of specie were 885,141*l.*, 540,690*l.*, and 1,227,929*l.* in 1871, 1870, and 1869, respectively, while the exports during the same years were 81,954*l.*, 49,197*l.*, and 299,136*l.*

"The details of the return show that the trade with the United Kingdom had diminished in 1871 compared with 1870 by 343,418*l.*, but had increased by 266,680*l.* compared with 1869.

"The trade with India, including British and French, is important, and amounted to 3,670,000*l.*, 3,414,000*l.*, and 3,620,000*l.*, in 1871, 1870, and 1869, respectively. The imports therefrom, however, exceed very largely the exports thereto; the former being 2,958,000*l.*, 2,727,000*l.*, and 2,847,000*l.*; and the latter 713,000*l.*, 687,000*l.*, and 765,000*l.*, in 1871, 1870, and 1869, respectively.

"The trade with Australia exhibits a considerable falling off; its value amounted to 411,124*l.* in 1869, 300,845*l.* in 1870, and 232,229*l.* in 1871. This is caused mainly by the diminished importation of specie, which was 331,932*l.* in 1869, 194,976*l.* in 1870, and 114,791*l.* in 1871. The value of horses imported also fell off in 1871; but that of manures, coal, and wheat flour increased.

"The opening of the Suez Canal appears to have led to a trade with some foreign ports with which there was none previously. In

1871 there are shipments of Ceylon produce to Hamburg, Trieste, and Genoa, which are not to be found in previous years."

16. I append to this Despatch a return of exports of coffee, cinnamon, cocoanut-oil, and coir, for the last ten years; and a return of the total value of imports and exports (including specie and bullion) in the years 1869, 1870, and 1871.

Public Works.

17. The total expenditure on public works during the past year amounted to 282,575*l.*

	£
Government money - - - - - - - -	211,783
Road Ordinance labour and private contribution -	33,925
Establishments - - - - - - - -	36,867
	£282,575

18. In the year 1870 the expenditure was 277,489*l.*, showing an increase of 5,086*l.* in 1871.

19. The expenditure is divided under the following heads:—

	Government Money.	Roads Ordinance Funds and Private Contributions.	Total.
WORKS AND BUILDINGS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New works and buildings	9,553 16 8¾	192 3 11¼	9,746 0 8
Alterations and additions to buildings - - -	5,955 1 5¼	—	5,955 1 5¼
Repairs to buildings - -	9,220 6 1½	—	9,220 6 1½
ROADS, STREETS, BRIDGES, AND CANALS.			
New roads - - -	39,597 0 3½	8,061 13 11¾	47,658 14 3¼
Additions and improvements to roads - - -	11,179 19 8¼	878 7 4¼	12,058 7 0½
Upkeep of roads - -	85,721 17 10	24,792 13 6¾	110,514 11 4¾
New bridges - - -	4,755 6 3¾	—	4,755 6 3¾
Repair of bridges - -	5,905 14 6½	—	5,905 14 6½
Inland navigation - -	4,963 17 7½	—	4,963 17 7½
IRRIGATION WORKS.			
New works - - -	26,964 17 0½	—	26,964 17 0½
Upkeep works - - -	698 5 2½	—	698 5 2½
DEPARTMENTAL CHARGES.			
Ferry-boats - - -	221 9 0	—	221 9 0
General service - - -	1,455 0 2¾	—	1,455 0 2¾
Miscellaneous - - -	5,590 2 11½	—	5,590 2 11½
	211,782 15 0¼	33,924 18 10	245,707 13 10¼
Establishment - - - - - -			36,867 8 1
Total - - - £			282,575 1 11¼

CEYLON.

20. The funds from which the expenditure has been met are as follows:—

	£
Supply Bill, 1871	212,690
Supplementary Supply Bill, 1871	2,906
Unexpended balances of previous years	21,655
Road Ordinance Funds	23,064
Private contribution	10,861
Loan Board Funds	2,311
Surplus Funds, 1867	1,572
Ditto, 1871	7,516
	£282,575

21. Amongst the new buildings last year may be noticed several hospitals at different stations which were in progress, or have been completed, on which 5,650*l.* were expended, viz.:—

	£
Leper Hospital	1,935
Matara „	620
Nuwara Eliya Hospital	225
Kurunégalá „	848
Negombo „	528
Hospital and Quarters (Mullaittivu and Vavonia Velan Kulam)	779
Galle Hospital	400
Gampola „	315
	£5,650

22. The following are some of the most important of the new roads which were proceeded with or completed last year:—

	£
Badulla and Batticaloa road	27,052
Morowaka road	8,057
Dik Oya road	5,550
Dimbula road	5,904
Badulla and Ratnapura road	4,180
Kegalla and Polgatrawelle road	1,253
Causeway between Taladu and Mannár	1,625
Navala and Goorookandura road	1,559

23. Of new bridges, the following were the principal:—

	£
Diggerella Bridge, on the Galle road	1,224
Bridge over the Wellaway River at Amblantota, in the Southern Province	458
Bridge over the Madura Oya, in the Eastern Province	1,326
„ over the Billool Oya, in the Central Province	708

Irrigation.

24. The following is a summary of the expenditure upon irrigation works during the past year:—

	£	s.	d.
WESTERN PROVINCE.			
Restoring Wallalgodde Irrigation Works -	787	3	11
„ Malwatta „ „ -	214	3	5
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.			
Deduru Oya Channel - - - - -	133	15	10
Restoration of Tinipitiya Wewa - - -	2,131	14	0
Channel and annicut (Kestpota Oya to Wewagedere) - - - - - -	700	0	0
Repairs to Weneruwewa Tank - - -	482	5	8¼
„ Magalawewa at Nickaweretiya -	787	12	5½
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.			
Kekenadura Channel and Tank - -	484	5	8½
Halu Ela Dam - - - - - - -	2,508	0	7¾
Channel from Urapola to Butawita - -	931	16	10
Annicuts at Urapola and Supugoda - -	401	10	11
Restoration of Tissi Maha Rama - -	1,820	6	1¾
Completing the works (Denigame and Weangwewa) - - - - - - -	1,791	15	0
Repairs to Udukerewela Tank - - -	2,366	15	0
EASTERN PROVINCE.			
Restoration of Devilane Tank - - -	2,524	12	7½
Senkapade Dam (completion) - - -	2,444	7	11¼
Restoration of Sakamatukulam - - -	1,603	14	10
„ of Pulukanawa ditto - -	1,965	12	7
Extra works to Rugam Tank - - -	379	7	4
Repairs to Periya Kulam - - - -	26	9	4
Channel from Allai to Mutur - - -	280	14	7¼
Kaddukkaimunai Villu - - - -	551	0	10
Kurunicanje Dam - - - - - -	87	9	6¾
CENTRAL PROVINCE.			
Butale Ela Dam - - - - - -	352	3	4
	25,756	18	6½
Surveys of Irrigation Works - -	1,207	18	6
	£26,964	17	0½

Government Houses at Colombo, Galle, and Kandy.

25. I enclose Reports of the Director of Public Works on the state of these buildings. They are, on the whole, in good order. The Queen's House at Galle is within the fort, in the worst situation possible. There can be no ventilation, and the heat is intolerable. The rooms are ill-arranged and inconvenient, and the whole structure is defective. I have given directions for the sale of this building, as I consider it to be altogether unsuited for the purpose for which it is maintained. From the enclosed Report* of the Colonial Storekeeper it will be seen that the public furniture in the several Queen's Houses has been kept in good order and suitable condition.

*Not printed.

Surveying Department.

CEYLON.

26. The results of the operations of the Survey Department in 1871 were satisfactory. 3,329 lots, containing in extent 25,227 acres, were disposed of for 61,331*l.*, or at an average rate of 2*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* per acre, exclusive of survey fees, which amounted to 5,181*l.* Certificates were given for 2,277 lots, containing 15,722 acres, the survey fees on which realized 2,151*l.* The fees received on account of Temple land surveys amounted to 350*l.*, and the fees for tracings to 188*l.*

27. The total number of lots alienated from the Crown was 5,609, comprising 40,953 acres; and the total sum realized by land sales and fees amounted to 70,184*l.* (exclusive of a sum of 21,004*l.* received for military buildings). This sum is considerably in excess of the receipt for 1870, which amounted only to 57,225*l.*

28. The following are the results of the sales in the different provinces:—

Provinces.	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Purchase Amount.	Average rate per Acre.
		acres.	£	£ s. d.
Western - - - -	1,386	5,205	16,590	3 3 8¾
Central - - - -	233	12,796	31,661	2 9 5¾
Southern - - - -	915	2,193	4,062	1 17 0¼
Eastern - - - -	369	3,118	4,920	1 11 6½
North-Western - -	187	1,092	2,222	2 0 8¼
Northern - - - -	239	820	1,876	2 5 9

29. The expenses of the department amounted to 26,099*l.*, of which 4,976*l.* were expended on railway extension surveys, meteorological observations, town and Temple land surveys, surveys for irrigation purposes, surveys and borings at Paumben Channel, and borings in Colombo Lake and Harbour, leaving 21,123*l.* as the expenditure on the ordinary work of the department.

Railway.

30. The gross receipts of the year amounted to 199,605*l.*, and the working expenses to 74,271*l.*, leaving a profit of 125,334*l.* In 1870, the receipts amounted to 206,640*l.*, and the working expenses to 73,547*l.*, showing a decrease in 1871 in the receipts of 7,035*l.*, and an increase in the expenditure of 724*l.*

31. The number of passengers carried during the year was 211,056 against 202,620 in 1870, and the tonnage of goods was 149,033 against 156,205 in the previous year.

32. There were several interruptions to the traffic during the year, caused by land and rock slips, and by the line being washed away in some parts; but they were of short duration, and the interruption to traffic was not serious.

33. A contract was entered into in September, 1871, by the Government, with Messrs. Reid and Mitchell, for the extension of the railway from Peradeniya to Nawalapitiya, a distance of 17 miles, for the sum of 1,907,176 rupees, or 190,717*l.*, the portion from Peradeniya to Gampola to be completed within two years, and the

whole work within two years and nine months from the date of the contract. The work was commenced by Messrs. Reid and Mitchell immediately after the acceptance of their tender, and some time before the execution of the contract; and they have already made such considerable progress in it, that it is hoped that the line as far as Gampola can be opened in the early part of next year.

Legislation.

34. The following are the Ordinances enacted in the session of 1871:—

No. 10, of 1871, "To amend the law respecting the concealment "of the birth of children," supplies an omission in the former Ordinance on this subject, No. 2 of 1842, and following the Imperial Act, 24 & 25 Vict., c. 100, it provides for the punishment, not only of women concealing the birth of their children, but of others who might be concerned in such concealment.

No. 11, "To authorize the discontinuance of the third yearly "criminal session at Kandy," was passed, in compliance with a memorial from planters and others in the Central Province, and with a view to remove the inconvenience to which they were subjected by being withdrawn for lengthened periods from their homes to serve as jurors, in the busiest part of the crop season.

No. 12, "To reduce the minimum rates fixed by Ordinance No. 10 "of 1865 for railway passenger fares," was also enacted in compliance with a memorial from merchants, planters, and others, who prayed for a reduction of the rates charged for passengers and parcels by railway between Colombo and Kandy; a concession which the Government felt that they were justified in granting, in view of the satisfactory results of the working of the railway.

No. 13, "Relating to postal rates," and No. 14, "To adjust "Customs duties to the currency of rupees and cents," were rendered necessary by the change of currency from *l. s. d.* to rupees and cents, which was introduced at the commencement of this year.

No. 15 authorizes the appropriation of a portion of the surplus revenues of past years to works and services of acknowledged public utility. It includes an item of 25,000*l.* for the extension of the railway to Nawalapitiya.

No. 16 is an Ordinance to give effect to certain Rules of Court in criminal matters, which were framed by the judges of the Supreme Court.

Nos. 17 and 25 make provision respectively for the supplementary contingent charges for the year 1871, and for the contingent services of 1872.

No. 18, "To amend the practice and proceedings of Police "Courts," was passed with the view to check frivolous litigation. It authorizes the magistrate to make a preliminary inquiry before putting the process of the court into motion, and to refuse to issue process where no crime is disclosed, or where the court has no jurisdiction. It imposes a small stamp duty on the plaint and subpœnas, and empowers the magistrate to require the deposit of the expenses of

witnesses and others summoned from beyond 10 miles, and to award expenses of defendants in certain cases. Magistrates are empowered to dispense with the stamp duty and deposit where the parties are very poor.

No. 19 provides for the reduction, in certain places, of the minimum rates payable for maintenance of police. It was represented to the Government that the minimum rate of two shillings was rather heavy in places other than towns. The Ordinance authorizes the Government to reduce the rate by one-half in places where, owing to the poverty of the inhabitants, or any other cause, such reduction is deemed reasonable.

No. 20 provides for the summoning of special jurors to try criminal cases before the Supreme Court. Cases of importance arise at times which, in the interests of justice, require to be tried before a superior class of jurors. To secure the services of such a class of men, the property qualification has been increased beyond the amount fixed in respect to ordinary jurors. Another evil which the Ordinance provides against is the very large expense which the Crown is put to in cases tranferred from one circuit to another. Provision is accordingly made for taking a panel from one part of a district to another, or to another district or circuit, under certain conditions.

No. 21, To amend the Ordinance No. 8 of 1871, entitled "An "Ordinance to amend in certain respects the law of mortgage and "hypothec," and No. 22, "To amend the laws regulating the "prescription of actions," were introduced in order to supply certain omissions in the former Ordinances on these subjects.

No. 23, "To consolidate and amend the law relating to stamp "duties" was rendered necessary by the change of currency. Advantage was taken of the opportunity to consolidate the Stamp Law of the Colony, to introduce into it amendments, the necessity for which had from time to time suggested themselves, and to adopt a system of ahhesive stamps instead of the less convenient and less economical system of impressed stamps formerly in use.

No. 24 establishes tolls on certain roads recently completed.

No. 26, "To facilitate the administration of village communi-"ties and to provide for the establishment of village tribunals," was introduced to provide an inexpensive, prompt, and popular means of settling village disputes on the spot, in order to check the great increase in the number of petty criminal charges which were being instituted in the minor courts; and also to devise some mode of settling the petty social quarrels and disputes connected with property or land, and with the daily occupations of the people, which give rise in reality to these charges. For a more detailed explanation of the objects and reasons of this Ordinance I would refer your Lordship to Sir Hercules Robinson's Speech in opening the Session of the Legislative Council in 1871, and to Mr. Irving's Despatch, No. 38, of the 4th February last.

No. 27, "To provide for the inland transmission of post cards," introduces the system adopted in England for the transmission of post cards at half the rate charged for ordinary letters, the postage being fixed at two cents (the nearest equivalent to a half penny) for each card.

No. 28 provides for the registration of domestic servants; a measure which was called for by the great increase in petty thefts by domestic servants. The registration established by the Ordinance will enable employers to ascertain the antecedents of the persons whom they engage in their service. The Proclamation has been confined to Colombo. The circumstances justifying this Ordinance have been laid before your Lordship in my Despatch, No. 50, of the 28th April, 1872.

Population.

35. A census of the population was taken in March last year. The detailed and classified returns of the population are not yet complete, but a return, showing the general result of the census, is given in the Blue Book. From this it will be seen that the total population of the Island is 2,405,287, viz. :—

Western Province - - -	776,930
North-Western Province - -	276,033
Southern Province - -	399,452
Eastern „ - - -	118,077
Northern „ - -	340,169
Central „ - - -	494,626
	2,405,287

Public Health.

36. The principal civil medical officer reports that the health of the country during the year has been exceptionally good. Fever, in an epidemic form, has been scarcely known; and cholera has been confined to a few sporadic cases in the Western Province, and a few cases in the Northern and Central Provinces connected with the chain of immigrant Coolies from the coast. The total number of cases reported during the year was 106, of which 62 proved fatal, or 57·16 per cent. Small-pox developed into an epidemic towards the close of the year in the Western Province, but only a comparatively few cases occurred in other parts of the Island. The total number of cases reported to have occurred throughout the Island was 3,013, of which 481 died, or 15·96 per cent.

37. The returns submitted by the principal civil medical officer show an increase of 528 in the number of cases treated in the Government hospitals over that of 1870, having been 8,916 against 8,388. The number of deaths was 962, or 10·78 per cent. of the total number treated. This shows a lower rate of mortality than that of 1870, which was 11·21 per cent. The total number of sick prisoners treated during the year in the several gaol hospitals was 1,953, with a mortality of 133, or 6·8 per cent. against 1,976 in 1870, with a mortality of 90, or 4·55 per cent.

Education.

38. The number of schools supported by Government on the 31st December last was 180, and the number of pupils on the list was 10,449, the average daily attendance being 7,805. This number

shows an increase of 24 schools, as compared with the number in existence in the previous year, and there is a corresponding increase of 1,723 in the total number of pupils, with an increase of 980 in the average daily attendance.

39. The expenditure on account of education, as compared with 1870, shows an increase of 3,288*l.*, the total amount expended during 1871 being 23,843*l.*

40. The receipts in 1871, under the head of fees, &c., amounted to 2,654*l.*, being an increase of 25*l.* as compared with the sum received in 1870.

41. Grants in aid, to the amount of 5,243*l.*, were given to 314 missionary and private schools, after an examination of the pupils. The number of pupils examined was 11,026, the number receiving instruction in these schools being more than 16,000. Of the number examined 2,501 were in English teaching schools, 1,496 in Anglo-vernacular schools, and 7,029 in vernacular schools. These results show an increase over the year 1870 of 91 schools and about 6,000 children.

42. The returns from the different missionary bodies show an increase of 58 in the number of schools supported by them, and of 2,089 in the number of pupils. The following is an asbtract of these schools:—

	No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils.
Society for the Propagation of the Gospel - - -	146	5,982
Church Missionary Society - - - - - -	101	4,008
Wesleyan „ „ - - - - -	115	5,443
Presbyterians „ „ - - - - - -	3	139
Baptist „ „ - - - - - -	24	899
American „ „ - - - - -	69	3,350
Roman Catholic „ - - - - - -	130	7,361
	588	27,182

43. The numbers in 1870 were 530 schools and 25,093 pupils.

44. The number of private schools in 1871 was 635, with an attendance of 8,490, showing an increase, as compared with 1870, of 356 schools and 1,652 pupils.

45. Prefixed to the Blue Book returns will be found a Table giving a statistical view of the progress of this Colony for the years 1821 to 1871 inclusive, and an abstract of the principal statistical results for the years 1870 and 1871.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, (Signed) W. H. GREGORY.

&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

DECENNIAL RETURN of EXPORTS of COFFEE, CINNAMON, COCOANUT-OIL, and COIR, the PRODUCE of the COLONY.

Years.	Coffee.			Cinnamon.			Cocoanut-oil.			Coir.			Total Amount of Customs Revenue from the foregoing Exports.
	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	
	cwt.	£	£	lbs.	£	£	gals.	£	£	cwt.	£	£	£
1862	605,178	1,445,284	30,259	875,475	43,774	876	1,429,531	142,953	3,591	46,595	37,648	583	35,309
1863	828,587	2,126,222	41,429	734,038	36,702	734	1,878,585	187,858	4,718	51,785	39,103	647	47,528
1864	671,164	1,744,793	33,559	776,675	38,833	775	2,249,402	224,948	5,649	36,313	27,386	454	40,437
1865	927,440	2,343,532	46,373	850,973	42,549	852	1,176,784	120,678	2,955	41,378	31,637	516	50,696
1866	897,624	2,286,880	44,882	890,484	44,524	890	1,042,853	104,400	2,619	46,687	33,035	594	48,985
1867	943,592	2,430,536	47,180	1,017,750	50,887	1,018	1,345,485	134,548	3,379	49,675	34,446	621	52,198
1868	1,007,338	2,563,999	50,367	2,056,509	102,825	2,057	1,423,853	142,385	3,576	68,804	46,607	861	56,861
1869	919,065	2,391,980	45,954	2,684,367	134,269	2,685	1,292,065	129,206	3,244	64,998	43,013	812	52,695
1870	1,054,029	2,753,004	Free	2,191,274	109,558	Free	1,688,199	168,819	Free	61,666	43,430	Free	Free
1871	945,851	2,432,427	Free	1,368,174	68,410	Free	2,577,700	257,770	Free	65,424	45,448	Free	Free
Total	8,799,868	22,518,657	340,003	13,445,719	672,331	9,887	16,104,457	1,613,565	29,731	533,325	381,753	5,088	384,709

Customs, Colombo, June 11, 1872.

(Signed) T. B. STEPHEN,
Principal Collector.

CEYLON.
Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

TOTAL VALUE of IMPORTS and EXPORTS (including SPECIE and BULLION) from each Country in each of the Years 1869, 1870, and 1871.

Countries.	IMPORTS.									EXPORTS.								
	1869.			1870.			1871.			1869.			1870.			1871.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
United Kingdom	1,175,757	16	11	1,531,491	9	5	1,462,050	5	9	2,652,781	1	7	2,907,145	17	6	2,633,168	19	6
British Possessions in India	2,681,779	18	2	2,559,087	11	3	2,779,820	6	11	752,907	7	10	662,333	3	11	686,847	17	7
Mauritius	7,308	15	11	38	0	0	2,415	3	0	4,186	18	1	13,265	15	2	6,380	10	6
Aden	61	3	6	28	0	0	9	17	6	10,075	16	9	—			—		
Hong Kong	13,501	0	1	28,841	7	9	18,264	11	4	903	13	11	6,853	9	3	31,619	13	8
Australia	366,710	16	4	251,613	12	10	184,929	19	0	44,413	5	10	49,232	18	11	47,299	2	9
Cape of Good Hope	11	4	10	—			—			—			191	19	0	—		
France	233	10	3	726	16	8	5,039	14	8	75,467	15	7	81,263	4	10	27,693	10	5
Suez	179,161	14	2	56,434	4	8	127,287	13	0	8,674	4	2	2,603	12	6	25,418	17	10
Maldive Islands	30,103	12	6	33,536	4	1	39,683	10	3	4,773	16	10	5,709	3	6	10,413	6	10
French Possessions in India	164,948	5	1	168,148	5	1	177,807	16	7	12,350	17	2	24,214	12	1	25,686	7	2
United States of America	13,475	2	7	4,351	14	4	157	11	1	62,928	4	11	48,824	16	6	63,918	7	5
Dutch Possessions in India	—			—			—			554	6	10	2,092	2	8	2,247	1	4
Bassora	—			—			25	0	0	—			—			—		
Bourbon	—			—			141	0	0	—			—			—		
Muscat	1,970	7	3	—			—			—			—			—		
Juddah	—			—			20	0	0	—			—			—		
China	—			—			300	0	0	1,047	14	9	—			335	3	0
Hamburgh	—			—			—			—			—			44,966	9	11
San Francisco	—			—			—			—			—			8,817	4	9
Trieste	—			—			—			—			—			17,038	13	8
Port Said (Egypt)	—			—			—			—			—			2,105	14	3
Genoa	—			—			—			—			—			896	10	0
Total £	4,635,023	7	7	4,634,297	6	1	4,797,952	9	1	3,631,065	4	3	3,803,730	15	10	3,634,853	10	7

[s. r.]

Customs, Colombo, June 5, 1872.

(Signed) T. B. STEPHEN,
Principal Collector.

CEYLON.

No. 2.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

ADDRESS OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE W. H. GREGORY, ON OPENING THE SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,—WEDNESDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER, 1872.

GENTLEMEN,

It is little more than six months since I assumed the Government of this Island, and it is therefore impossible for me to address you on many subjects with the confidence which more experience would have conferred.

I am thus obliged to ask for indulgence at your hands if there are omissions in this Address, and for generous assistance in amending and passing the measures which I am about to propose.

I have, however, before me a task unburdened by many difficulties which sometimes fall to the lot of a new Governor as bequests from his predecessor, for no obstacles up to the last hour of his rule deterred Sir Hercules Robinson from perfecting such measures as were in his opinion conducive to the interests of the Colony, and his wish was to hand it over to his successor, as he has done, unembarrassed by administrative or financial difficulties. With these advantages on taking up the Government, it would ill become me not to express before you who knew his work, and how he worked, my recognition of the high administrative ability, the calm judgment and good sense, and the undaunted labour which characterized the six years' rule of Sir Hercules Robinson in Ceylon.

It will be my object to follow his example of visiting every portion of the Island, of judging of the requirements of each locality, and of forming acquaintance with the officers of all departments.

I shall also rigorously adhere to that policy which he so steadily pursued, of maintaining the credit of the Island unimpaired, by not embarking in any expensive undertakings without being able to demonstrate to you, either that they are directly reproductive, or that they are calculated to confer indirect benefits to the Colony commensurate with the outlay.

Considering how largely coffee enterprise contributes to the revenues of the country, it is the bounden duty of Government to facilitate that enterprise by aiding the planters with roads, by affording them outlets for their produce, and, above all things, when works are once determined on, by pushing them forward to completion with as little delay as possible. But if undertakings beyond the resources of the revenue are demanded for the accommodation of the coffee districts, it will be necessary to prove that the Government can compete in cheapness with the existing means of transport, and at the same time provide for interest on the outlay, and for a sinking fund within a moderate

CEYLON.

number of years. No one who has visited these districts, and who has seen relapsing into jungle one tract after another of what were once flourishing plantations, or who has compared the condition of the best managed old estates with the vigour of the young, can come to any other conclusion than that the Government would not be justified in laying a permanent or long-continuing debt on the Island, which might possibly remain a burden on it long after the undertaking for which the debt had been contracted had ceased to be of use.

I now proceed to lay before you our financial condition, and I am happy to be able to offer you the same congratulations on our prospects which for so many years you have been in the habit of receiving.

The revenue of 1871 amounted to Rs. 11,216,790, and the expenditure to Rs. 10,641,840, leaving an excess of revenue over expenditure of Rs. 574,950, or a net surplus of Rs. 326,230, after deducting Rs. 248,720, the unexpended balances on works in progress which were carried forward for expenditure in the current year. By this excess of revenue over expenditure the cash balance of the Colony available for appropriation on 31st December was increased to Rs. 896,060, and deducting Rs. 500,000 as a reserve, there remains for disposal by Surplus Funds Ordinance during the present Session Rs. 396,000.

The revenue returns for the first eight months of the current year are very favourable, showing a gross receipt of Rs. 7,558,810, as compared with Rs. 7,239,810 for the first eight months of 1871, being an increase of Rs. 319,030. And although a serious loss of revenue must be anticipated from the damage done by the late disastrous floods, and the stoppage of the railway traffic, there is no reason to doubt that the estimate of the revenue will be largely exceeded, while the expenditure of the year will be considerably below the estimate. Supplementary estimates will be laid before you for the appropriation of the anticipated excess of revenue over expenditure.

The revenue of 1873 is estimated at Rs. 11,400,000, and, after providing for the ordinary and necessary expenditure of the Colony, there will remain about Rs. 2,300,000 available for public works. Of this Rs. 1,260,000 will be absorbed in upkeep and departmental charges, leaving about Rs. 1,040,000 for new works.

I propose to apply the surplus cash balance of the Colony, amounting, as I have stated, to Rs. 396,000, to the Náwalapitiya Railway Extension ; and a Surplus Funds Ordinance will be submitted to you for this purpose.

By this appropriation of surplus funds, and by some further contributions from revenue which the state of the finances renders possible, the amount to be borrowed for this work will be reduced from 150,000*l.*, as contemplated by Ordinance 4 of 1871, to 75,000*l.* I am of opinion that a corresponding reduction may be made in the period of fifteen years allowed for the redemption of the debt, and I propose therefore to obtain the repeal of the Ordinance of 1871, and to ask for power to raise a loan of Rs. 750,000, redeemable in seven years. An Ordinance to give effect to this arrangement will be laid before you.

The appropriation which I propose of the portion of the revenue of 1873 available for new public works, includes the following items:—

	Rs.
The Náwalapitiya Railway Extension (in addition to Rs. 100,000 on the Supplemental Estimates for 1872)	150,000
Hospitals	50,000
Schools	32,000
Repairs to Buildings	110,000
Additions to Buildings and Works	13,000
New Buildings and Works	116,000
New Roads	80,000
Improvement of Roads	110,000
Irrigation	200,000
Inland Navigation	50,000
Museum in Colombo	50,900
Trincomalee Road (Habarana to Trincomalee)	20,000
Do. (Mátalé to Habarana)	20,000
North Road	40,000
Water Supply to Tangalla	9,000

I much regret I am unable at present to propose a vote for bridging the rivers along the Northern and Trincomalee roads, but I trust the state of the revenue will enable me to accomplish this work in a great measure next year. It was the earnest wish of Sir Henry Ward, so far back as 1856, to bring these great arterial modes of communication to completion; and the vast increase of traffic and of villages along the Northern road, which have sprung up within the last two or three years, shows how requisite the work is.

I have recently travelled over a portion of both roads, and have remarked with surprise their excellent condition. It is true that the weather was dry, and favourable for travelling. I have given instructions that the future improvements shall be permanent, and that the culverts shall be solidly built instead of being boarded, which is a constant source of interruptions and expense. I trust, therefore, that I may have the pleasure ere long, if I receive your support, of congratulating you on the fact that these two great roads have been placed in as good condition as that from Galle to Colombo.

In accordance with the promise which I made when paying a recent visit to Dik-oya, I shall ask your sanction for a sum sufficient to open a grant-in-aid road into Maskeliya, and also for an extension of the Dimbula road.

There is another road, to the completion of which I attach very great importance, but which requires a survey and the completion of arrangements with proprietors before it can be undertaken—that between Wellawáya and Lémastota. This road, when finished, will give direct and easy communication between the salt district of Hambantota and the interior of the Central Province, and will have the effect, I hope, of cheapening the price of salt and increasing its consumption in the interior.

I regret to be obliged to leave untouched many works of necessity urgently recommended to me by the Government agents; but though set aside for the present, they will not be forgotten hereafter. Among others, the construction of a causeway from the mainland in the Peninsula of Jaffna to the Island of Káraitívu. This work is much required to complete communication with Kayts, which may be considered the commercial port of Jaffna, and it can be in a great

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measure executed by prison labour. In consideration of the steady industry of the inhabitants of the peninsula, which has converted soil chiefly covered with madrepore into a garden, we should deal with them in a liberal spirit, and I would have endeavoured to set aside a small sum for the preparation of the necessary materials, had I considered that the Government agent would have been enabled to employ the prisoners now engaged at Mannár Causeway on a new undertaking. I do not, however, consider it advisable to divert them from a work of so much utility, which will probably be completed in the course of next year.

I propose to take a vote for the commencement of a Museum of Natural History and Antiquities, of Rs. 50,000. This building, when completed in the rough, will not exceed, as I am informed, Rs. 80,000, and the expenses of the staff connected with it will be very moderate. There will still remain some expenditure for external decoration and internal fittings, which can be considered hereafter. When you compare the outlay on this structure with that on similar institutions elsewhere — the Museum at Calcutta having cost Rs. 1,120,000—you will, I think, be of opinion that I have endeavoured to keep down the expense to the lowest limit commensurate with proper exhibition. I shall allude more at length to this subject hereafter.

I now desire to call your attention to certain Ordinances which I am about to lay before you. The first in importance is an Ordinance to provide medical relief for Coolies in the coffee districts.

One of my earliest objects on arrival was to ascertain the conditions under which the large Coolie immigration is conducted in this Island, the treatment to which the Coolies are subjected, and the relations that exist between them and their employers. Much and deserved interest is felt in England on this subject. Public feeling has on more than one occasion been aroused by statements of ill-treatment to which immigrant labourers have been subjected in British possessions, and I was desirous of satisfying myself by the closest personal investigation, whether all had been done that ought to be done for the health and accommodation of the large mass of Indian Coolies who annually enter and leave the Island. I therefore not only visited the coast stations in Ceylon frequented by the immigrants, but proceeded to the ports of Devipatam and Paumben in India, from which they embark during the south-west monsoon. I found at Devipatam a large covered shed and a tank of fresh water, recently constructed by Mr. Riedy, the Assistant Emigration Agent, for their accommodation. No words can too strongly express how highly I appreciate the watchful and humane consideration of that gentleman, and of Mr. Twynam, the Government Agent of the Northern Province, for the health and comfort of the Coolie. Accommodation has been and is being provided for the reception of the Coolies on their arrival and departure. Four chartered vessels, from 150 to 300 tons, ply between India and Ceylon, and every attention is paid to their cleanliness and sanitary arrangements. Medical attendance on board has been sanctioned. So far the arrangements appear to me to be amply sufficient for the purpose, and to be most conscientiously carried out.

It would, however, have been impossible for me to have formed an opinion as to the completeness of these arrangements, without an inspection of the Northern road, over which the great stream of emigration flows. In the month of July I passed along that road to Mihintalé. Bands of Coolies in almost unbroken line were on their way to the coffee estates; they seemed full of strength and vigour; and I am glad to report that in the hospitals of Mátalé, Dambulla, and Mihintalé, there were in all only two sick immigrants. No doubt, this has been an exceptionally healthy year, but the excellent wells and rest-houses which are now constructed all along the road, the bazaars which have quite recently sprung up at intervals, the precautions taken by the appointment of wardens to convey to the hospitals any persons who may from sickness have fallen back from the gang, and the gratuitous assistance given to these persons to enable them after recovery to pursue their journey,—all these precautions seem effectually to have overcome the mortality which, it is alleged, formerly marked the passage of immigrants from India to the plantations.

In order still more effectually to guard against the sick and infirm being deserted on the roadside by their gang, I have, in compliance with the suggestion of the Secretary of State, ordered that each kankáni shall on reaching Ceylon be presented with a printed form, on which the number of his gang and the name of each member of it shall be entered by him. This will be checked before reaching Dambulla, and any kankáni whose list falls short of the original number, will have to give a certificate stating where and in whose hands the missing person has been left. The Assistant Emigration Agent considers the plan feasible, but in order to carry it out some slight expense will have to be incurred, for which I trust to obtain your sanction.

In pursuance of the same object, it has been my duty and very great pleasure to visit several of the coffee districts, in order to acquire some insight into the treatment of Coolies, and the relations that exist between them and their employers. I am glad to be able to state that, almost universally, the treatment of the Coolies will stand the closest investigation, and that the relations between them and their employers are of the most cordial description. Instances to the contrary do undoubtedly occur, but so rare are they that they prove the rule of conduct, and by no class of the community have I heard such strong condemnation of any act of harshness and injustice to the Coolie as by the Planters themselves.

Besides being influenced by the common feelings of humanity, which must exist in a community of highly-educated, honourable English gentlemen, the Planters have, as a rule, a great liking for their Coolies; and they are perfectly aware that no heavier blow could fall on the coffee interests in this Island than that an impression should spread through the villagers of Southern India that cruelty and injustice await them in Ceylon.

One thing alone remains to bring our regulations affecting the Indian labourer into as perfect order as any human arrangement can attain, and that is, to provide a system of medical relief in the coffee districts. The long distances from which sick Coolies have to be

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brought to the district hospitals, their unwillingness to enter them until the time has almost passed when the physician's skill can avail, the necessity of domiciliary visits, the acknowledged advantages which have arisen at home from the adoption of the Medical Charities' Act, have induced the Imperial Government to press this matter strongly on my attention. I concur in the view taken by the Secretary of State, as to the necessity of legislation on this subject. It cannot be dealt with by voluntary arrangements. I shall therefore lay before you an Ordinance, which will make provision for the objects in view. I have endeavoured so to frame it as to render it as little onerous as possible to the Planters, and to give them the fullest latitude for carrying out its provisions with the least possible interference on the part of Government.

Branch Road Assessment.

I shall also submit to you an Ordinance to remedy a grievance of which Planters generally complain. You are aware that by the terms of the Ordinance in the case of grant-in-aid roads, the contribution of the district must be lodged previous to the sanction of the Government being given for the construction of the road. Constant representations have been made to me, that districts have for a long period been deprived of road accommodation, owing to the default of one or two individuals. It is true that provisions are enacted in the Ordinance for the sale of the defaulting estate, but some uncertainty is supposed to prevail as to the liabilities of purchasers. It has been proposed to me to bring in an amending clause to remove all doubts and to give the purchaser a clear title. This course, however, appears to be dangerous and unnecessary. I greatly fear that if it became known in England, that an estate could be put up for sale in consequence of a trifling debt, and that the sale cleared off encumbrances, there would arise apprehension at home in regard to the large sums lent on landed security in Ceylon. The consequences might be very serious. I have therefore considered it preferable to any amendment in this direction, that power should be given to the Provincial Road Committee to enter upon such defaulting estate, and distrain any crops, implements, buildings, timber, &c., found upon it. There can be no objection on the score of justice to the proposal, as the estate will be but repaying that sum which has been improperly credited to it, but which should have been in the hands of the Provincial Road Committee. There can be no objection on the ground of expediency, as the small amount leviable cannot affect the securities on the estate; but, in fact, when it once becomes known that a cheap and efficient remedy is provided by the law for the recovery of these contributions, evasions of them will cease.

Preservation of Game.

I shall lay before you the draft of an Ordinance for the better preservation of what is termed game, but which in fact affects only deer, elk, buffaloes, and pea-fowl. I wish it distinctly to be understood that this is not an Ordinance to preserve game for the amuse-

ment of sportsmen, but to prevent the complete extermination of those animals which, a few years ago, supplied food to a large portion of the native population. The strongest representations that have been made to me on this subject have come from villages in the interior.—The complaint is, that large bodies of strangers enter the district, drive into a narrow compass and shoot down and wound large quantities of deer, the flesh of which is dried, carried away, and sold; that this wholesale destruction goes on at all seasons; and that the breed of buffaloes is deteriorating by the slaughter of the wild males. During the whole of my journeys in the Northern and Eastern Provinces I only saw two deer, and heard one pea-fowl, although riding over ground where a few years previously all kind of game abounded.

I am unwilling to recommend a general annual tax on guns, which would be inquisitorial and unpopular; but I trust that a strict observance of the close season, the prohibition of driving except by the inhabitants of the district—who may be looked on as owners of the game, and the exercise of powers which the Ordinance confers on them to make rules for its preservation, will be sufficient to check further destruction, and to restore the breed of deer and buffaloes now rapidly disappearing.

Village Communities' Ordinance.

An Ordinance will be laid before you which is an addition to the Village Communities' Ordinance of 1871. It is entitled "An Ordi-"nance to empower Police Courts to try Breaches of Rules made by "Village Communities where no Village Tribunals exist." The object of the Ordinance is to enable village communities to frame their own administrative regulations, and to enforce them by the Police Courts in districts where it may be inexpedient to establish the village tribunals created by the Ordinance of 1871.

Paddy Cultivation Ordinance Amendment.

An Ordinance will be brought forward for the amendment of the Paddy Cultivation Ordinance of 1867. The object of the Government is not to set aside the fundamental principles of this most valuable and carefully composed Ordinance, but merely to make it more elastic.

The almost universal feeling of the Government agents throughout the Island is adverse to the maintenance of the repayment of the cost of irrigation works by ten annual instalments. It is proposed therefore to allow to the cultivators the option of ten annual instalments, or of a light permanent rate, which also provides for the maintenance of the irrigation works. This rate shall never exceed Rs. 1 per acre, nor more than $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the works, viz., 5 per cent. on the outlay, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for upkeep.

The Ordinance is so far retrospective that it permits the cultivators, who have previously agreed to repay the charge in ten annual instalments, to avail themselves of the low rate in perpetuity instead; and on the strong representations of many of the Government agents, I

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have thought it right to make provision that this money payment may be commuted to one in kind. This I have every reason to believe will be regarded as the greatest possible boon by the natives. Payment in kind is perfectly understood by them, and easily managed; whereas in many parts of the Island repayment by cash would be accompanied by serious difficulties and great dissatisfaction.

An amendment of some importance has also been introduced, that at the preliminary meetings the decision shall not depend on the number of the votes alone, but that acreage as well as numbers is to determine the majority. This amendment is much required, as several most useful works have been stopped by a majority of cultivators possessing but a small portion of the land to be irrigated.

When it is considered that in Southern India Rs. 6 per acre is the standard of assessment on land irrigated by Government, I think the boon which we offer to the cultivator in Ceylon, of irrigating his land for one-sixth of the amount levied on the Indian cultivator, is one that should be thankfully received.

Lunatic Prisoners.

Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of repeated remands of lunatic prisoners for future inquiry by judges, whereby the prisoners have been subjected to much excitement, and the gaols disturbed by their frantic violence, I have prepared an Ordinance which will be submitted to you, and which while providing ample safeguards against false and interested accusations of lunacy, will remedy the present unsatisfactory state of things so much complained of by the Medical Department.

Other Ordinances of minor importance will be submitted to you, but I need not detain you with an account of their provisions.

I now turn to topics connected with the administration of the Island, which cannot fail to be of interest to you.

I regret that it is not in my power to give you any information on two subjects of deep importance to the Colony—the Colombo Breakwater, and the reduction of Military Expenditure. I am still awaiting the decision of the Secretary of State on the latter point, and I understand that the plans and estimates of the breakwater, which were referred to Sir John Coode and considered by him, and which have been subsequently returned to Mr. Townshend, are now on their way out. I therefore trust I shall be able to communicate with you on the subject before the close of the Session.

I wish I could have informed you that the Secretary of State had decided on the reduction of the Military Expenditure, which I have strongly urged.

The addition to our revenue of so large a sum would have enabled me at once to take in hand many improvements in the condition of the service, which I am unable to deal with for want of funds. The condition of the clerical branch of this service, however, appears to me to call so loudly for improvement, that I have caused a plan to be prepared which will, I trust, materially simplify and improve the position of its members, and the expenditure on which will, I trust, be acceded to by you. The fault of the present system is, that every

petty clerkship in the service has a fixed salary assigned to it, and it is thus impossible that a clerk should obtain an increase of pay unless appointed to some other clerkship—involving removal generally to another station. My proposal is to place the whole of the minor clerks of the service, whose duties are of a mechanical and routine nature, into one class, and to assign to it a salary increasing with length of service. The higher clerkships in the service will be divided into classes, according to the importance of their duties and the rate of their salaries; and promotion to these higher classes will be made from the ranks of the lower grade by seniority and merit. The result of this system will be, that a clerk who shall do his duty faithfully, but is not qualified for promotion to the high ranks, will receive acknowledgment for his length of service by a progressive increase of his pay, while promotion to the higher clerkships of the service will be open to those who shall merit it by ability or good service.

Education.

In the Department of Public Instruction I am glad to inform you the progress made during the past twelve months has been even greater than was anticipated. In opening the Legislative Council in 1870, Sir Hercules stated that he expected there would be, before the close of 1871, some 500 schools and 20,000 children benefiting by the sums voted for the Department, and this statement has been fulfilled, for, at the end of 1871, there were 494 schools and 26,000 children participating in the vote for Public Instruction. Since then the increase has been equally rapid. In the present year 33 vernacular schools have been opened by Government, and 122 others have been examined for grants, so that there are now under the Department 649 schools, giving instruction to, in round numbers, 30,000 children.

A third class of schools has been added to the Government scheme within the last few months, namely, C. or village schools, which it is proposed to assist by small capitation grants. These grants will be given with the object of helping these schools to a higher class; and with the view of not departing from the policy of the Government, that payments shall be made on results, it is provided that any school which shall have received assistance as a C. school for three years, and is not, at the end of that time, qualified to rank as an A. or B. school, shall, unless good cause be shown to the contrary, cease to receive a grant.

To meet the increased expenditure in grants-in-aid, a sum of Rs. 10,000 has been added to the amount voted for that purpose this year, and it is hoped that that will cover the cost of C. schools also.

Rs. 3,500 have been put on the estimates for the establishment of new vernacular schools, for which there have been several applications by village councils in the Central and Western Provinces.

While encouraging these and similar applications for assistance, the Government will impress on the Director of Public Instruction the necessity of satisfying himself that schools are not unnecessarily multiplied, and that when a district has been sufficiently supplied, fresh schools will not be subsidized.

Gaols.

In his opening Address of 1866, Sir Hercules Robinson commented on "the deplorable condition of gaols in this Island." A large expenditure has since then been incurred in the reconstruction of some gaols, and the great improvement of others. This has enabled the Inspector of Prisons to introduce and insist on a proper system of penal discipline throughout the Island, which was impossible before. There still remain some gaols to be dealt with, but I hope ere long to be able to congratulate you on having our prison system in a thoroughly satisfactory condition. While on this subject, permit me to refer to

Public Executions.

The shocking spectacle that recently met my eyes, of an unfortunate criminal being paraded through the streets of Kandy on his way to execution, in one of the most public parts of the town, and the information I received that in other towns the sentence of death had hitherto been carried out in the most frequented places, induced me, with the full consent of the Judges of the Supreme Court, to order that executions, while still retaining their publicity, to which the legal authorities attach much importance, shall no longer be conducted in the sight of unwilling spectators, but at spots remote from the public view, to which there is access to those who are desirous of being present.

Hospitals.

The Government is still engaged in the work of extending hospital accommodation throughout the Island, and the report of the principal Civil Medical Officer is encouraging. Provision will be made for this object in the estimates, and the works pushed on as rapidly as possible to completion.

The principal Civil Medical Officer is much embarrassed by perpetual and well-founded applications for aid, which he is unable to grant, owing to the want of properly qualified assistants. The Government Medical School, which has been in successful operation for the last two years, will, it is believed, furnish a useful class of medical practitioners, and afford the materials for a subsidiary Medical Service for the Colony. It would be well in my opinion to afford encouragement to the natives to avail themselves of the opportunity now placed within their reach of educating themselves for the medical profession; and I hope to effect this by the grant of some pecuniary aid to students of promise and good character, whose means, without assistance, would be too slender to enable them to live in Colombo and complete their course.

Police.

The subject of the Police force has been pressed on my attention. Should the sanction of the Home Government be given to the proposed reduction of Military Expenditure, it will then be necessary to strengthen this force in certain stations; and many of the well-conducted men of the Ceylon Rifles can thus be at once re-employed.

Strong representations have been made to me against the intro-

duction of the Police system into the rural districts, and I am inclined to concur in the view taken of the inexpediency of doing so except as a punishment for lawlessness. Without constant supervision and intelligent inspection of outstations, much abuse of authority on the part of subordinate officers occurs, and it is difficult for the sufferers to obtain redress. This abuse of authority is one of the subjects of complaint; the irregularity, if not the injustice, of the mode of assessment, is another. For instance, I find that the Police at Já-ela are charged to the inhabitants by assessment, whilst the Police at Minuwangoda, a precisely similar station, are charged to the Government. The Police at Pusselláwa are paid by the planters; those at Ramboda, on the same road, by the Government. The Police at Kotmalé are paid for entirely by the planters; at Dikoya the Government pays a moiety; at Trincomalee, where the Police guard the gaol, Kachchéri, Treasury, &c., the whole cost is paid by assessment; at Kurunégala, with precisely similar duties, the cost is divided; at Hambantota, the Government pays the whole.

The whole system of assessment abounds in these anomalies, and should be revised and conducted on some fixed principle. A liberal system of rewards for the detection of crime and the apprehenston of offenders, should be sanctioned; and lawlessness in a district should be punished by the immediate quartering of a Police Force on it, and by a special assessment for the payment of that force being rigorously levied.

Irrigation.

Upon this subject I am enabled to offer you the most unreserved congratulation. In the month of April I visited the rice-growing regions of the Eastern Province, which are the creation of the irrigation works carried out by Government. I never before saw such an unbroken sheet of grain: save where some isolated trees, part of a recent forest, broke the view, the eye wandered over some 20,000 acres of green paddy. I saw, wherever I went, a sleek, vigorous, well-fed, and thoroughly healthy population.

The great impetus to paddy cultivation in this Province was given in 1857, when the restoration of the important Irrigation Scheme, of which the tanks of Irakkáman and Ampárai are the most prominent features, took place. Up to 1864 the lands under cultivation were 54,000 acres; the lands in cultivation in 1871 were 77,000 acres. The Crown lands to be additionally reclaimed under works already completed, or in course of completion, amount to 15,900 acres,—equal to the support of 23,850 persons.

The works in this Province are rapidly arriving at completion, and the Government is deeply indebted to the Government agent, Mr. Morris, for the assistance he has rendered to, and the interest he has evinced in, these most beneficial undertakings. As the wants of this population are now more than overtaken, inasmuch as rice is beginning to be exported from the district, I am most anxious to put the full strength of the department at work in restoring irrigation to Nuwarakaláwiya. This magnificent district has the strongest claims upon us. It was once the granary of the Island; it is now utterly neglected. It has a population of 60,000 persons, and over 1,600

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villages, which have each of them their tank. There are at least 1,700 of these tanks, and I am credibly informed not one of them has its sluice in order. The consequence is, that the inhabitants mainly depend on Chena, and wholesale destruction of the forests has been the result. I have therefore ordered that a careful preliminary survey should be made of the district for irrigation purposes. Plans for the works and estimates can then be drawn up; and I trust that in a few years hence the population may present the same vigorous and thriving appearance as the population of the Eastern Province, and from the same causes—namely, good and plentiful food.

The irrigation works in the Southern Province are also advancing, and will be fully carried out.

Railway Extension.

I have appointed a Commission composed of official and unofficial members to inquire into the returns which might be expected from two proposed lines of railway in connection with Badulla,—the one an extension from Náwalapitiya to Badulla, the other from Colombo viâ Ratnapura and Haputalé to the same terminus. Should these returns be so far favourable as to show any probability of either of the lines fulfilling the conditions to which I have already alluded, I shall be most happy to ask you to sanction the expenses of a flying trace, without which it will be impossible to ascertain with any accuracy the course the lines should take, the intermediate traffic, the engineering conditions connected with them, and the cost of construction.

The best thanks of the Government will be due to those gentlemen who have, with much public spirit in spite of other pressing business, devoted their time to this inquiry, which I trust they will shortly complete.

Forest Preservation.

The reports of Government agents and their assistants have convinced me and the Executive Council that no time should be lost in adopting a plan for the preservation of forests. The present system involves loss to the revenue, wholesale fraud, and the gradual but certain destruction of the most valuable timber in the Island. In the Trincomalee district alone the timber which was fraudulently cut and hidden in the jungle, but which was discovered by means of large rewards, has sufficed to supply the wants of the timber trade in the Eastern Province during the present year.

No one who has ridden through forests where licences have been granted, can fail to be struck with the wasteful, indeed ruinous mode of cutting timber. Large trees are felled without any previous lopping or precaution, and break in their fall all the smaller trees around them. A piece which suits the wants of the feller is cut out and the rest of the tree, containing most valuable timber, is left to rot.

If this system be allowed to prevail much longer, Ceylon will not be able to provide timber for its own wants. The best wood will be cut away in all accessible places, and no young stock will be growing up to replace it.

The regulations which I am about to propose will at first involve

some expense, but I have not a doubt but that, when the fraudulent transactions to which I have referred are stopped, and the full value of the timber cut obtained, we shall amply recoup ourselves for this expense. But even were it not so, and that the increased receipts were not likely to overtake at once the increased expenditure contemplated, I am of opinion that out of the receipts from timber we should provide for the maintenance of the forests, and not swell our present revenue by the gradual impoverishment of what should be one of the permanent resources of the island.

I recommend that in the Northern, North-western, Eastern, and Southern Provinces certain forests should be proclaimed as reserved Government forests. One or more blocks for cutting should be defined in each such reserved forest,—until these blocks are exhausted no cutting elsewhere to be permitted,—a block, when exhausted, to be replanted with useful trees, for which purpose nurseries should be established. A forester to be appointed in each Province, to supervise the cutting, removing, and sale of timber, and the replanting of the blocks cut.

A difference of opinion exists whether the tree should be cut and removed by Government to certain spots, and there sold, either by auction or measurement, or whether the buyers should be allowed to do the work. I propose that each plan should be tried, and that experience shall determine which of the two should be finally adopted.

Gansabháwa Ordinance.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to report to you favourably as to the working of this enactment. The Government agent of the Western Province states that there has been but one appeal in 52 civil and criminal decided cases; that the records are kept with great regularity and neatness, and that the proceedings are remarkable for the absence of all technicalities, and are simple and to the purpose. He adds that there is a desire among neighbouring villages to be annexed to the proclaimed district, which is a proof that the Ordinance is popular, and can be extended with advantage.

The acting Government Agent of the Central Province reports that the Ordinance was proclaimed in the division of Udunuwara on the 16th November, 1871; that 449 cases, civil and criminal, have been decided; that there have only been 7 appeals, and that 201 civil and criminal cases have been brought to an amicable settlement by the advice of the Gansabháwa. In every case of appeal the original decision has been confirmed.

As soon as the Ordinance was introduced into Udunuwara, steps were taken to frame administrative rules under clause 6. These rules were brought into operation on the 4th of last July, and already under their provisions twelve useful village paths, which had long been neglected, have been opened, and other foot and bridle paths will be cleared within a short time.

Arrangements have been also made for restoring three tanks capable of irrigating 100 amunams of paddy land; and for this work the villagers seek no assistance, save the machinery provided by the Ordinance. Other useful works are in contemplation.

It is considered that six village schools will at present suffice for the

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wants of this division. The people will be ready with two school-houses on the 1st October, and the other four will be ready early next year.

The successful working of the Ordinance in this division of 13,000 inhabitants has given encouragement to its introduction into other parts of the Central Province; and it is intended from the 1st of October to extend its provisions to Walapané, with 9,000 inhabitants, and to Mátalé north, with 16,000. There is already ample indication that the Ordinance will be of service in providing, in the office of president of these tribunals, an object of ambition for Kandyans of influential position, and in enlisting native agency in the administration of the Island, which I consider to be an object of the gravest importance.

Cinchona.

It must naturally be a subject of much interest to the Legislature to hear that the attention of the planters has been directed to the raising of other produce besides coffee, and not without success.

The cinchona produced in the Island seems, from the accompanying extract from a letter of the consignee in London to Mr. Harrison, to be of excellent quality, and the soil of the Island seems adapted to the cultivation of this plant. After stating that the cinchona bark remitted by Mr. Harrison was selling for higher prices than those obtained by the Indian Government for the *officinalis* and *succirubra* barks grown at Ootacamund, the agent adds, "There must be something in the soil or climate of Ceylon peculiarly adapted to the perfect growth of this plant, which we think should make it more extensively grown in the Island."

Tea.

I am informed that samples of tea grown on the estates of the Ceylon Company have been tested by competent authority, and have been pronounced to be of such quality as to warrant a more extensive cultivation of the plant. If the experiment of tea planting be a success, it will be an important adjunct to coffee. It will enable the planter to find continuous work for his labourers, and it will bring into cultivation large tracts, the elevation of which is generally considered to be too high for coffee. In order therefore to give every encouragement to the opening of fresh industries in this Island, I have informed the Planters Association that, if they consider the service of two experts in the manipulation of tea would be of use to the growers, I shall move the Government of India to send here two such persons for a couple of years. They can be stationed at Hakgalla, and instructed to give information and assistance to the planters.

Silk.

I have been applied to by several persons for information on the subject of the production and sale of silk, and I have placed myself in communication with the chairman of the Silk Association in England. As far as I can learn, silk can be produced here in any quantity, with proper care and attention, and with an ample supply of leaves. The mulberry tree grows quickly and vigorously in Ceylon, the worms are reported to be hardy and to thrive well; but difficulties arise from the want of patient and skilled hands in the winding of the silk. I fear

these difficulties cannot be overcome, and that any silk grown in the Island must be sent in the dried cocoon to Europe to be spun. The remission of cocoons to Europe from various parts of the East is, I understand, largely increasing, and the information I have sought is chiefly on this point. I have also written to Japan for a small quantity of eggs for experiments.

I am well aware that the last subjects to which I have referred may appear trivial, while the great coffee enterprise flourishes and absorbs all attention; but coffee was itself, at no far distance of time, an experiment; and other experiments may introduce other industries to vary and extend the productive power of the Colony.

Museum.

The want of a Museum, in which may be represented the natural history, antiquities, and industrial products of the Island, has been forcibly urged on me by persons of all classes. During the period when the revenue of the Island did not suffice for its most imperative wants, it would have been inexpedient to have sanctioned an institution which it was better to leave untouched rather than establish on an inadequate and unsatisfactory footing. For a comparatively small sum, considering the object in view, a Museum may be constructed, which shall not be a mere random collection of miscellaneous objects, but a scientific, teaching exhibition,—which, while ministering to the amusement of many, may convey instruction to all who seek it.

Through every enlightened country in Europe Museums and Art galleries are being extended. There are few towns of note in France, Belgium, Germany, and Italy, without these institutions. In many of our Colonies they have been set on foot with no grudging spirit, and with the happiest results.

What we essentially require in our society is, that men engaged in business during a portion of the day may have opportunities for intellectual employment in the study of the works of nature and of man, which a properly organized Museum will afford them; and I am convinced, if you sanction my proposal, that a spirit of inquiry into natural history and archæology will be awakened throughout the whole Island.

As yet the only attempt to bring together the natural and artificial productions of the Colony has proceeded from the occasional and praiseworthy efforts of private persons, and yet all our other Colonies united could not furnish a collection of objects of such varied interest as Ceylon.

To carry out thoroughly our purpose, it will be necessary that the head of the institution should be a person competent from knowledge and scientific training to arrange in proper sequence the various specimens as they come in, to give information to the student, and probably to give lectures occasionally on the different branches of the collections—such as on the principles of classification, the habits, instincts, and economical uses of each class.

I propose in connection with this Museum to obtain reproductions of the inscriptions through the Island, by means of photography, casts, and hand-copying. These inscriptions, varying in character and

CEYLON.

dialect, will be of deep interest to the philologist, and throw light on the ancient usages, religious customs, and early history of Ceylon. It is unnecessary for me to inform you that the study of Oriental literature, language, and history is being pursued with ardour throughout Europe; but I may mention that I have received constant communications from persons of literary eminence, urging me to carry out speedily and effectually the work which I have indicated. I shall also endeavour to remove to the Museum such objects as illustrate the early art of this country, taking due precaution neither to offend religious feelings, nor, by improperly detaching a portion of it, to destroy the completeness of an ancient structure which we may hope to preserve.

Believing as I do that the success and utility of this institution will depend on the character and attainments of its Director, I shall ask you, by granting him a liberal salary, to offer an inducement to a man of high acquirements to undertake the task. Far rather would I exercise parsimony in the structure than in the salary of the Director; far rather would I have an eminent man and a plain inexpensive building than a costly edifice and a cheap and inefficient Director.

I have no fear, however, of the Museum ever becoming any burden on the Colony. The cause of the increasing expense of such establishments in Europe arises from the constant and enormous accumulation of objects from every part of the world, which are ever demanding additional space and an additional staff.

I propose, however, at once to affix a limit to our collections. They should be strictly confined to the productions of Ceylon, and as I shall mainly trust to voluntary contributions, the annual expense for the purchase, collecting, and removal of specimens to Colombo will be very trifling.

You will, I trust, excuse the length to which this Address has been protracted, and the details into which I have entered.

I think it a matter much to be desired that the Government should give you full information on all subjects of general interest. Criticism, if favourable, must of course be gratifying; criticism, if unfavourable, may be most valuable and salutary. The more the acts of the Government are canvassed and discussed, the more likely are they to come out eventually the better for attrition.

Intoxicating Liquors.

There is one subject more on which I cannot be silent, and that is, the extension of drunkenness throughout the Island. English rule has given to Ceylon many blessings, which the inhabitants are ever ready to acknowledge—security of life and property, equality before the law, and just tribunals, the abolition of serfdom, excellen troads to promote intercourse and facilitate the conveyance of produce; but we have at the same time extended a curse throughout the Island which weighs heavily in the other scale, namely, drunkenness. Some years ago, as I am informed, a drunken Kandyan would have been disgraced in the eyes of his fellows. Now the occurrence is so common that the disgrace has passed away; drunkenness is extending itself gradually into villages where it was before unheard of, and

even the women are accustoming themselves to intoxicating drink. I have had some remarkable petitions on this subject:—the first, from the Roman Catholics of Jaffna and other parts of the Northern Province, numerously signed by Europeans and Natives alike. Another petition was recently presented to me by the Rev. Mr. Scott, signed by no less than 32,396 persons—7,382 English, 16,419 Sinhalese, 8,595 Tamils. These petitions, I am glad to inform you, are characterized by moderation and good sense. They do not go to the length of advocating the total prohibition of the sale of spirituous liquors. The petitioners are aware that such an attempt would be impossible. But they say, "Restrict the places of sale, and thus discourage intoxication, and diminish the great moral and social evils which flow from it."

In these recommendations I warmly concur. In restricting the sale of intoxicating liquors some diminution of revenue must be expected, but, in the words of the petitioners, any decrease under that head would be more than compensated by an improvement in the general well-being of the community, and in the reduced cost of establishments for the suppression and punishment of crime.

In corroboration of this argument, I may mention that in the majority of cases where the sentence of capital punishment has been pronounced, and which have been referred to me, arrack has been connected with the crime. It is my intention, with the assent of the Executive Council, to issue a circular to the Government agents to contract as far as possible, at the commencement of the year, the sale of intoxicating liquors, and to prevent its extension into the rural districts. It is said that, with prohibition, private sale of liquor and private tippling will take the place of public sale. No doubt we cannot expect to shut out altogether ardent spirits from these districts, but the occasional introduction of small quantities of arrack for private use is a very different thing from the effects of arrack taverns flaring and flaunting in the public view, and, as it were, soliciting all comers. The dread of the informer will in some degree suppress the illicit sale of arrack, but what I chiefly rely on is the absence of ever-ready, ever-exposed temptation.

When in the year 1843 Sir James Graham put down with a stern hand the gambling-houses of London, it was confidently asserted that, if men were disposed to gamble, no legislation could prevent them, and that private play would take the place of public; but the Government of Sir Robert Peel thought otherwise, and thought rightly. Gambling became a matter of danger, and public and private play at games of chance has almost entirely ceased throughout the length and breadth of England. I anticipate the same good effects here by imposing restrictions upon drinking shops, though not to the same extent.

We must, as I said before, be prepared for a slight but, I believe, a very slight decrease of revenue, in consequence of curtailing the area in which arrack taverns may be established; but even supposing we are thereby obliged to protract the completion of some works of utility for a longer period, can any work be named more beneficial, more urgent, more accompanied with God's blessing, than that of trying to save the bodies and the souls of those committed to our charge?

CEYLON.

I wish I could conclude my Address with these observations. It has seldom been granted to a Governor to meet his Legislative Council with more satisfactory comments on the past year, or with brighter anticipations of the coming.

But within the last fortnight a great calamity has befallen us. Inundations, to an extent unknown in this colony for a long series of years, have inflicted serious though only temporary damage to a large tract of country. The loss of life, so far as I can ascertain, has been but small, considering the suddenness and extent of the floods; but many houses have been swept away, and a large amount of native property destroyed.

In this emergency, I have ventured to take on myself the responsibility of sanctioning the purchase of food for the temporary relief of the distressed, and I trust that henceforth private liberality will go far to mitigate their sufferings.

I have no misgiving that I shall not be cordially supported by you in the course I have pursued, but that you will readily sanction the expenditure incurred.

I may perhaps be stepping out of the proper limits of a Governor's Address in taking this opportunity of expressing how strongly I appreciate the assistance I have received, during the recent sad events, from the Government agent of this Province, from the Inspector-General of Police, and from Messrs. Robinson, Strong, Murdoch, and Vanderstraaten of the Railway Department. Their energy and humanity ought not to be passed over without notice.

The breaking down of the railway bridge over the Hanwella road involves the temporary interruption of traffic with the Central Province. The Government is well aware of the serious consequences of this interruption, and every effort will be made to restore communication with the least possible delay. I am grieved to add that this accident has been accompanied by loss of life. Three persons employed in the Railway Department were drowned on this occasion. The Council will, I am confident, bear in mind that these men perished while discharging their duties, and make provision for their families.

As soon as the flood has subsided, I consider that it will be necessary to institute an inquiry into the cause of this accident, and into the general condition of the bridges along the line. It will also be expedient to inquire whether additional outlets for the escape of water should not be constructed, in view of the recurrence of inundations.

GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

The Ordinances already referred to will be immediately brought forward for your consideration. I now leave to you the business of the Session, with the fullest confidence in your wisdom, industry, and discretion. I trust that the work of this Council may ever tend to the uniting and knitting together the hearts of the people of this Colony in loyalty to the throne,—and I pray that Divine Providence may guide and prosper all our undertakings.

MAURITIUS.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Honourable ARTHUR GORDON, K.C.M.G., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Mauritius, August 21, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Colonial Blue Book for 1871.

The greater part of it has been long prepared, and it might have been forwarded at a much earlier date, but for the accidental transmission to England of one of the returns essential for the completion of the Report of the Protector of Immigrants.

No events of special interest or importance have marked the even course of a year which has fortunately been free from those calamities by which Mauritius has of late been too frequently visited.

Towards the close of the year the Chamber of Agriculture, in consequence of certain strictures made upon the labour laws of the Colony, in a pamphlet published in the Island, requested that a Royal Commission might be appointed to inquire into the condition of the Indian immigrants in Mauritius. This request I ventured to recommend to the favourable consideration of your Lordship, and Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant the prayer of the Chamber.

Taxation.

There has been no additional taxation imposed in 1871.

Revenue and Expenditure.

There has again been a slight surplus of revenue over expenditure, as in the two preceding years. The amount of this surplus was 15,901*l.*, nearly the same as that of last year.

The revenue of 1871 exceeded that of 1870 by 8,796*l.*, and the expenditure likewise exceeded that of the previous year by 9,383*l.*

The revenue has exceeded the amount at which it was estimated by 31,594*l.*

This increase of revenue is derived principally from licences and permits, and from the railway. There has been a considerable falling off in Customs duties, occasioned by the imports, especially of grain and tobacco, having been smaller than during the preceding year.

The following statement will enable a comparison to be made between the principal items of the revenue of 1871, that of 1870, and the mean of the preceding ten years; except in the case of the railways, which have not been open for so long a period.

	Mean of 10 years ending 1869.	1870.	1871.
	£	£	£
Customs	183,379	218,697	200,906
Taxes	18,365	13,179	13,797
Licences and Permits	167,623	154,256	169,660
Stamps	8,126	12,734	11,839
Registration and Mortgage Dues	26,868	20,171	18,746
Postage	6,715	5,034	4,774
Harbour Dues	27,790	20,683	19,885
Land	11,857	3,336	5,555
Fines and Forfeitures	17,094	14,416	13,409
Fees of Office	9,396	8,926	9,280
Railway	—	95,611	103,462
Total revenue	576,596	608,166	616,953

Customs, stamps, and licences were above the average of the ten years ending with 1869. All the other items were below.

The expenditure of 1871 exceeded the amount at which it had been estimated by 17,804*l.*

10,000*l.* of this large increase is attributable to the amounts provided for maintenance of works and locomotive power for the railway department having been largely exceeded, as well as to other important works in this department which had not been provided for in the estimates.

There is an apparent increase of 5,000*l.* under the head of Immigration, for return passages of time-expired immigrants; but as this amount is recovered beforehand, and figures also in the revenue side, the increase is nominal.

Compared with the expenditure of 1870, and with the mean of the preceding ten years in the same way as has been done with the revenue, the following results are shown:—

	Mean of 10 years ending 1869.	1870.	1871.
	£	£	£
Salaries	205,123	206,364	208,039
Allowances and Contingencies	29,744	28,206	27,903
Pensions	13,700	14,198	14,530
Revenue Services	11,647	11,241	8,424
Administration of Justice	8,127	6,595	7,544
Ecclesiastical	2,285	2,421	2,365
Education	6,187	5,426	4,633
Hospitals	10,205	4,721	6,560
Police and Gaols	6,315	8,070	7,589
Rent	5,168	5,149	5,528
Transport	3,315	1,725	1,961
Mails	28,688	5,773	5,404
Works and Buildings	27,010	13,872	12,175
Roads and Bridges	21,740	16,592	12,482
Interest	13,504	10,596	14,867
Civil Stores	32,823	24,762	24,178
Military	36,956	27,848	24,055
Immigration	18,543	12,374	14,346
Railway, working expenses	—	68,752	73,193
Interest and Sinking Fund	—	86,210	95,592
Total expenditure	£594,576	591,579	600,961

The railway revenue will be seen to have increased by about 8,000*l.*, whilst the increase in expenditure, which is inevitable with increased traffic, has not been quite in the same ratio. The working expenses since the opening of both lines have been, in 1866, 65·23 per cent.; in 1867, 74·50 per cent.; in 1868, 70·21 per cent.; in 1869, 64·37 per cent.; in 1870, 63·65 per cent.; and in 1871, 63 per cent. I am happy to be able to add that the traffic of the railway appears to be steadily increasing, and that the revenue of the present year promises to exceed that of 1871.

Local Revenues.

The revenue and expenditure of the municipal corporation have been respectively 40,913*l.* and 42,919*l.*, showing an excess expenditure of 2,006*l.*

These figures do not include the amounts that have been raised on debenture bonds, nor the payments that have been effected on account of these loans. The revenue and expenditure, including these items, has been for the last ten years as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1861	61,639	61,136
1862	56,998	57,839
1863	58,974	59,155
1864	48,620	48,549
1865	89,698	87,824
1866	84,114	84,402
1867	115,168	115,784
1868	71,670	70,472
1869	62,497	64,162
1870	81,580	75,536
1871	63,899	67,288

New debentures were issued last year to the extent of 12,840*l.*, whilst others were paid off to the amount of 15,080*l.* The debt of the Corporation at the end of 1871 is stated to have been 135,700*l.* At the end of 1870 it was 140,940*l.* There is therefore a slight improvement in the financial position of the Corporation.

The revenue and expenditure of the General Board of Health for the last three years have been:—

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	£	£	£
Revenue	8,770	10,153	8,846
Expenditure	7,668	8,210	14,731

The debt due by the Board to Government has increased to 12,000*l.* The revenue continued to be derived from the same sources last year, the contemplated provisions for raising revenue under a totally different system not having yet been carried into effect.

The revenue and expenditure of the Poor Law Commission were respectively 26,762*l.*, and 26,545*l.*, a little less than during the preceding year. The debt of the Commission outstanding on 31st December last was 12,000*l.*

Military Expenditure.

Owing to a reduction in the number of troops serving in the Island, the amount contributed by the Colony towards the military expenditure during 1871 was only 24,000*l.*, or 6,000*l.* less than during the preceding year.

Public Works.

Few new works were undertaken during 1871, and the expenditure under this head has fallen short by 5,800*l.* of that of 1870. The total amount expended both for works and buildings, and roads and bridges has been 24,500*l.*, of which considerably more than half was applied to maintenance of existing roads and buildings. The maintenance of roads alone cost 11,700*l.* This is, however, only about half what was expended before the railways were opened.

There are many public works needed, the commencement of which will not, I hope, be lost sight of whenever the finances of the Colony are sufficiently restored to permit the requisite outlay.

Establishments.

The expenditure under this head for the last five years has been as follows:—

	Salaries.	Allowances and Contingencies.	Total.
	£	£	£
1867 - - -	215,762	28,607	244,349
1868 - - -	211,627	28,505	240,132
1869 - - -	208,883	25,721	234,604
1870 - - -	206,365	28,207	234,572
1871 - - -	208,039	27,903	235,942

The apparent increase in this expenditure is in a great measure to be explained by the full salary of the Governor and other officers having been paid in 1871, whilst during a large part of the previous year only half salaries were drawn.

The only increase of any importance that has taken place has been 1,600*l.* for education, through the extension given to the Royal College.

Reductions have been effected in other establishments that fully counterbalance the increase.

Population.

The population of the Island, which was estimated on 31st December, 1870, at 328,633, was found by the census taken on the 10th April, 1871, to be only 316,042. I find it extremely difficult to give any satisfactory explanation of the numbers thus apparently unaccounted for, nor do any of the proposed solutions of this question commend themselves to me as worthy of attention.

The excess of births over deaths between that date and the end of the year has been 343 males and 1,402 females, and the excess of arrivals over departures of Indian immigrants has been 433 males

and 364 females. The population of the Island on 31st December last is estimated at—

	M.	F.	Total.
General population -	52,250	48,592	100,842
Indian „ -	142,101	75,641	217,742
	194,351	124,233	318,584

The excess of births over deaths during the year is stated to have been—

	M.	F.	Total.
General population - -	796	933	1,729
Indian „ - -	337	1,566	1,903
	1,133	2,499	3,632

The births and deaths during the last ten years have been—

	Births.		Deaths.
1861 - -	7,857	-	6,814
1862 - - -	10,837	-	13,719
1863 - -	11,169	-	11,666
1864 - - -	11,499	-	11,649
1865 - -	12,118	-	12,042
1866 - - -	12,134	-	11,702
1867 - -	10,568	-	40,114
1868 - - -	9,436	-	18,403
1869 - -	9,977	-	11,295
1870 - - -	11,157	-	7,426
1871 - -	11,803	-	8,171

And the birth and death rates during the same periods are estimated at—

	Birth rates.		Death rates.
1861 - - -	2·4	-	2·1
1862 - - -	3·2	-	4·1
1863 - - -	3·3	-	3·4
1864 - - -	3·3	-	3·4
1865 - - -	3·3	-	3·3
1866 - - -	3·3	-	3·2
1867 - - -	3·1	-	12·– epidemic fever.
1868 - - -	2·9	-	5·67
1869 - - -	3·–	-	3·49
1870 - - -	3·3	-	2.25
1871 - - -	3.73	-	2.58

In the Report on the position of the Colony at the end of 1870, it was stated that during the period comprising the previous twenty years the deaths had exceeded the births. The returns for both 1870 and 1871 show an improvement in this respect.

The general health of the Island is stated by the Registrar-General to have been good, with the exception of an epidemic of influenza, which prevailed in the 2nd and 3rd quarter of the year, and an out-

break of fever in the district of Grand Port and Savanne, the former of which had hitherto been comparatively free from its influence. The results may be seen from the following statement of the death rates during the year in the several districts of the Island:—

	General Population.	Indian Population.	Total.
Port Louis	2·82	3·74	3·21
Pamplemousses	2·59	2·38	2·44
Rivière du Rempart	2·17	2·34	2·31
Flacq	2·38	1·92	2·02
Grand Port	2·95	2·61	2·704
Savanne	3·16	2·87	2·92
Plaines Wilhems	2·84	2·21	2·409
Black River	2·40	2·55	2·508
Moka	2·53	2·11	2·23

Fever is stated by the Registrar-General to have caused 43 per cent. of the deaths; but if the deaths from other diseases which may be traced to fever are taken into consideration, the endemic fever of Mauritius has been directly or indirectly the cause of at least 60 per cent. of all the deaths that took place.

The number of suicides was 63, against 66 in 1870, and 90 in 1869.

The Report of the Protector of Immigrants shows that 3,292 immigrants were introduced, and that 3,074 returned to India during 1871.

Education.

The steadily increasing number of pupils attending the Royal College is very satisfactory.

The average attendance has been—

In 1868	128
„ 1869	141
„ 1870	175
„ 1871	222

In September, 1871, a branch school in connection with the Royal College was opened at Curepipe, a healthy station in the centre of the Island, which, since the prevalence of fever, has had a large population. In the month of December this school was attended by 66 pupils, and this number has since considerably increased.

In the Government Schools the number of pupils borne on the rolls exceeded by 401 the number so borne in 1870.

Administration of Justice.

From the returns prepared by the Acting Procureur General which, with his Report, accompany this Despatch, it will be seen that the number of cases brought to trial before the Court of Assize has exceeded that of the last two years. There has been a still greater increase in the number of accused, but this is in a great measure to be accounted for by several cases of burglary in which a number of persons were concerned.

Whilst there has been a larger number of cases of murder, there has been a corresponding diminution in the number of cases of manslaughter brought to trial. No less than fifteen accused were tried during the year for murder or attempt to murder, eight of whom were convicted of this offence, and five found guilty of manslaughter, The capital sentences were carried out in only three cases. In the others the punishment was commuted to twenty years' hard labour.

The crime in which the greatest increase is to be observed is that of arson, generally a very difficult charge to prove. Out of seventeen persons accused of this offence, eleven were convicted.

Three cases were tried of placing stones on the railway lines. One prisoner, an adult, was sentenced to five years' hard labour, the highest penalty allowed by the law. The other two were young lads, who were presumed to have no intention of causing harm, and were sentenced to two years' detention at the Reformatory School.

There were no other cases that call for any special remark.

The usual returns of civil and criminal cases dealt with by the Supreme Court will be found annexed.

Gaols and Prisons.

Whilst there has been an increase during 1871 in the number of cases tried before the Court of Assize, an examination of the different prison returns would show that for several years past there has been a steady decrease in the total number of offenders who are committed to the several gaols.

These commitments have been—

	M.	F.
In 1869	26,489	359
„ 1870	18,007	306
„ 1871	14,183	347

The average daily strength of all prisons during the last five years also tends to confirm this view :—

In 1867 it was	1,729
„ 1868 „	1,681
„ 1869 „	1,651
„ 1870 „	1,588
„ 1871 „	1,399

The prison establishments have been visited several times during the year, and carefully inspected in all their details by the chief medical officer.

The proportion of sick per 1,000 prisoners and the death rate were both higher than in the preceding year, the former having been 176·7 against 139·4 in 1870; and the latter 4·15 against 2·19 in 1870.

This is partly accounted for by an unusual number of cases of consumption and of broncho-pneumonia, mostly in weakly subjects, in the gaol of Port Louis, and also by the fever which prevailed with unusual severity during part of the year in the district of Grand Port—a district which almost escaped its ravages during the disastrous year 1867.

Juvenile Reformatory.

I regret to state that during the first two months of 1871 malignant ulcers proved very fatal amongst the boys of this institution. With this exception the health of the inmates has been good. A more generous dietary scale was introduced to counteract the effects of these ulcers, and has proved eminently successful. A new hospital has been completed during the year, the work having been executed almost entirely by the boys themselves, who make excellent masons.

About 100 acres of ground have been cleared, and are under cultivation. All those boys who show any aptitude for them are taught trades; the rest learn gardening, grooming, &c. Since this institution was started in June, 1868, 645 boys have been sent to it, of whom 189 have been since apprenticed to different masters, and, as far as can be learned, the greatest part have turned out well. Only seven of these apprentices have been reconvicted.

The outbreak of ulcers does not appear to have been due to the situation of the Reformatory, as this disease exists under similar circumstances in other parts of the Island, but may be attributed to the very low state of health of many of the boys when brought to the institution, their constitutions having been undermined by fever and want of food. Those who did not succumb to the disease, the germs of which were, in most cases, no doubt existing in them at the time, have since wonderfully improved in their condition, and there has been no recurrence of the malady at the same season in the present year.

Legislation.

Thirty-four Ordinances were passed in 1871. Few of these, however, were of any general interest, or deserve any special mention in addition to the Report made to your Lordship upon each at the time of its adoption.

The most important was No. 17, "To amend and consolidate the "Laws of the Colony relating to the Civil Status."

By this Ordinance—although the work of consolidation was not carried so far as was originally intended, or as would, I think, have been advisable—material improvements in the machinery of the civil status were effected, and numerous separate laws repealed, their provisions being embodied in the new law, or dispensed with altogether as obsolete and unsuitable.

Ordinance No. 23, "To appropriate to the Police Reward Fund "the Fines hitherto received by Members of the Police Force," which throws into a common reward fund the fines previously received by individual members of the police force, was a measure much needed, and will produce very salutary effects.

The Ordinance No. 26, "To alter and amend the Laws relating "to the Naturalization of Aliens," having been shown by your Lordship to be defective in several particulars, is now undergoing amendment.

By Ordinance 27, "To repeal Ordinance No. 24 of 1850, inti-"tuled 'An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 38 of 1844, in as

" 'far as relates to the departure of Vessels and Individuals,' and " Ordinance No. 7 of 1852, intituled 'An Ordinance to amend " 'Ordinance No. 24 of 1850, relating to the departure of Vessels " 'and Individuals,'" and old and vexatious restriction upon the departure of individuals from the Island was repealed.

The only other Ordinance deserving special mention is No. 34, " For the Appointment of Inspectors of Immigrants."

It having been discovered that no adequate provision existed for the inspection of estates on which Indian immigrants were employed, and that, in fact, such inspections had practically been almost discontinued, this Ordinance was introduced, and after some discussion adopted. I have no doubt it will effect the purpose for which it was designed.

Thirty-three Proclamations were issued during the year, almost all of which were purely formal, being chiefly for the purpose of announcing Her Majesty's confirmation of Ordinances, or extending Ordinances to the dependencies, or for notifying the appointment of public functionaries.

Imports and Exports.

The value of imports and exports during 1871, deducting specie, has been respectively 1,807,382*l.* and 3,053,054*l.*

There is little doubt that the value of exports given by the Blue Book last year was under-estimated. A comparison with those figures, therefore, will not be of much use. The exports in 1871 may, however, be roundly stated as having exceeded those of 1870 in value by 450,000*l.*, and this excess is accounted for by the larger quantity of sugar shipped in the former year.

The quantities and value of the sugar exported during the last five years are given below:—

	Tons.	Value.	Average price per cwt.
		£	s. d.
1867 - -	100,000	2,156,950	18 4
1868 - - -	99,000	2,143,166	21 10
1869 - -	107,000	2,599,815	22 10
1870 - - -	102,000	2,549,881	24 11
1871 - -	123,000	2,819,944	22 7

The concluding paragraphs of the Despatch in which Major-General Selby Smith last year transmitted the Blue Book for 1870 to your Lordship, contain many forcible remarks, in which I entirely concur, and which, I fear, are little likely to be proved erroneous.

It is needless for me here to weary your Lordship in their repetition, and I will only add that whilst the considerations to which I have referred would in themselves suffice to show the paramount necessity of economical and sanitary reforms, I am further of opinion that even were the Island itself in a more satisfactory condition, and its prospects for the future far more encouraging, I should still consider very considerable changes in its financial system, and in almost every branch of its administration, to be loudly called for.

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But it is hardly in a Despatch of this nature that it would be suitable to expatiate on this subject, which must form the topic of very grave communication with Her Majesty's Government before any decided steps can be taken in this direction.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, &c. &c. &c. (Signed) ARTHUR GORDON.

(No. 90.)

Colonial Secretary's Office, June 13, 1872.

The following Report on the Railway Department for 1871, having been laid before his Excellency the Governor, is published for general information.

EDWARD NEWTON, Colonial Secretary.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1871.

(No. 14.)

Mauritius Railways, General Manager's Office, Port Louis, January 9, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honour to report the results of last year's operations; they were as follows:—

	£
Gross receipts - - - -	106,370
Working expenses - - -	67,020
Leaving a balance of - -	£39,350

From which it will be seen that the working expenses amounted to 63 per cent. of the gross receipts as against 63·65 per cent. in 1870. The estimated receipts, including Government traffic, were 99,480*l.*, and estimated expenditure 62,999*l.*

ANALYSIS OF REVENUE.

North Line.

			£
Passengers, No.	369,739	Receipts - -	20,260
Goods, Tons -	65,841	„ - - -	19,030

Midland Line.

			£
Passengers, No.	546,323	Receipts - -	41,516
Goods, Tons -	80,264	„ - - -	25,564

The general goods traffic has increased from 72,178 tons to 87,525 tons, and tonnage of sugar conveyed was 58,579 tons as against 48,010 tons in 1870.

ENGINEERING REPORT.

Way and Works.

The upkeep of the permanent way, works and stations (wages and materials), including wages of gatemen, special patrol, or "canton-

"niers," has cost 17,726*l.* in 1871, or 3,121*l.* in excess of 1870, but still within the estimated expenditure. MAURITIUS.

The following new works, not fairly chargeable to revenue, have been debited to permanent way:—

	£
Lengthening and replacing old wooden platform, Central Station, with stone	478
Erecting new water tank and building tank-house at Rose Hill	108
Replacing wooden platform at Quatre Bornes by stone	16
Extension of sidings at Curepipe, Cluny, and Rose Belle	125
Building new camp at Flacq to replace one burnt down	103
Cost of sanitary works at Terre Rouge	80
	910

The average cost of maintenance per mile of railway was 246·29*l.*

Two of the heaviest inclines on the Midland Line have been relaid with Bessemer steel rails, and an additional sleeper per length of rail laid down. The road is in good order; the wear and tear follows the same rate as formerly, i. e. increase as the square of the mileage worked over the lines.

Rolling Stock.

There has been a slight increase in engine mileage, owing to the system of working a bank engine with most of the sugar-carrying trains. Mileage.

The price of fuel has advanced from 11*d*·23 to 11*d*·41 per mile, owing to the increased rate at which coal has been contracted for.

Repairs to Engines.

As most of the engines have now reached an important period of their life, no pains have been spared to ensure their being kept in perfect working order by giving them thorough repairs; and owing to the commendable attention of the works' foreman these repairs have been conscientiously performed.

It is my object to keep the rolling stock and works in the most perfect working order, as 50 per cent. of the cost of working railways is entailed by these departments. Safety and economy depend upon stock and way being kept as nearly perfect as possible.

We continue to reap benefit from reduction of weight of vehicles upon the Midland Line through adoption of double-storey carriages for a portion of our third-class stock. When the traffic and increasing age of present stock warrant the ordering of additional trucks, I shall be prepared with a scheme for increased carrying capacity combined with decreased dead weight.

Again it is my pleasing duty to acknowledge the valuable and loyal assistance I have received from all in the department. Each officer has worked with a will, and a great part of the year's success may be attributable to this good feeling. Staff.

Accidents.

With the exception of a fatal accident on the 8th February near the Petite Rivière Station, caused by a collision between a ballast and a stone train, in which those in charge of the ballast train were most to blame, no accident has occurred during the year. The passenger train service has been conducted with punctuality and safety.

Annexed is a Report from Telegraphic Superintendent, and statement of telegraphic business.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. H. SCOTT,
Engineer and Manager.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

Telegraph Superintendent's Office,
March 14, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the following Report of the working of the Electric Telegraph during 1871:—

Communication.—No total stoppage has taken place on either line in the year. Telegraphing became very difficult during the gale of 5th January, necessitating the refusal of public telegrams, but traffic telegrams were dispatched without interruption.

Messages.

Number of messages forwarded for the public and Government departments other than the railway -	8,614
Number of messages on general railway business - -	16,029
Number of train signalling messages - - -	69,520
Total number of messages - - - - -	94,165

Receipts.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Gross value of public and Government department telegrams - - - - - - - -				792	9	9
Less paid out for delivery - -	136	17	6			
Less value of Government messages	62	19	0			
Less unexpended porterage money refunded to senders - - -	1	10	6			
				201	7	0
Nett receipts - - - - -				£591	2	9

Increase over last year—

	£	s.	d.
In receipts - - - - - - - -	61	11	4

In public and Government messages - - -	911
In railway messages - - - - - -	5,343
In train signalling messages - - - -	21,351
Total increase in messages - - - -	27,605

Revenue.—The revenue from public messages has increased 10·4 per cent., and will probably remain almost stationary for some years.

Expenditure.—The expenditure has increased 96*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*, owing to the appointment of four additional clerks for the new telegraph stations.

Staff.—The operators are not on the whole quite so efficient as they were in 1870, because of ten new appointments having been made in 1871. But they will become tolerably smart by next crop should no further changes take place.

Lines and Instruments.—The work of strengthening weak and exposed parts of the telegraph lines has been going on throughout the year, and will, I believe, enable communication to be maintained through much more severe gales than those lately experienced. Before leaving the Colony I hope to have all the posts and exposed work repainted.

All instruments are in working order.

The annexed table* shows the work done at each station in 1871, and also the progressive increase of business since 1867.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) F. HIGGINS,

Superintendent, Telegraph.

To the Acting General Manager of Railways.

REPORT of the REGISTRAR-GENERAL for the year 1871.

March 5, 1872.

Population.

The resident population of Mauritius, according to the census taken on the 10th of April, 1871, was composed of 51,771 males of the general population and 48,013 females, and 141,804 males of the Indian population and 74,454 females — Total, 316,042. Between the 10th April and 31st December, the excess of births over deaths in the former class amounted to 479 males, and 579 females. In the latter there was an excess of 136 deaths in the males, and an excess of 823 births in the females. The arrivals, however, of Indian immigrants exceeded the departures by 433 males and 364 females, thus raising the total resident population to 318,584, classified as under.

General Population.		Indian Population.	
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
52,250	48,592	142,101	75,641

It has been found impossible to follow the movements of the general population, or even of those of free Indian passengers, since the repeal of Ordinance No. 24 of 1850. The total estimated population on the 31st of December, male and female, may be taken as correct; but as the births and deaths of some Creole Indians, number at present uncertain, have been registered as belonging to the general population, the latter is probably a little over-estimated.

* Not printed.

Marriages.

The total number of marriages registered in the year was 739, being an increase of 47 on those of the preceding year, 42 of which were Indian. If the fluctuations in the marriages are a fair indication of the condition and prospects of a people, then the first four years of the last decade were those of greatest prosperity. In the year 1866 the marriages of the general population fell from 557 to 411, and those of the Indians, from 213 to 163. In the following year, 1867—that of the great epidemic—they declined to 372, and 112, in the two classes respectively. From that period there has been a tolerably progressive improvement, but marriages among the general population have never in any year since 1865 reached the number registered in either of the preceding four years; and even among the Indians, notwithstanding the progressive increase of females in that class of the people, the improvement has been by no means commensurate. The exceptional habits and condition of the Indians are sufficient to account for the low marriage rate (2·6 per 1,000) in that class; but that the marriage rate of the general population should be so low as 9 per 1,000, with a birth rate of 37 is somewhat remarkable, and does not tell well for the general morality of the people. In England, the average marriage rate is 16 and the birth rate 33 per 1,000.

Births.

The total number of living births registered was 11,803, being an increase of 646 on the preceding year. Of that total number, 6,046 were male and 5,757 female births, the excess of males being a trifle over 5 per cent. The births among the general population numbered 4,449, among the Indian 7,354. The excess of births over deaths in the former was 1,729; in the latter, 1,903. General population, excess of males 796, females 933. Indian population, excess males 337, females 1,566. To account for the excess of male Indian deaths over births between the 10th April and 31st December, as stated in the first table containing the estimated population at the end of the year, it should be explained that all those births which occurred before the 10th April, and were registered after that date, were necessarily deleted.

The annual birth rate of the general population was 4·45; that of the Indian 3·40. The exceptionally high rate of the former tends to strengthen the suspicion before expressed, that a certain proportion of Indian births are carried to the credit of the general population, whilst the total birth rate is so high as to lead to something more than a suspicion that the resident population of the Island is larger than is represented in the Report of the Census Commissioner. The birth rates varied in the several districts from 4·19, highest, in Port Louis, to 3·12, lowest, in Pamplemousses. The total birth rate was 3·73.

Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered in the year was 8,171, against 7,426 in 1870, an increase of 745. The number of deaths among the general population was 2,720, among the Indian 5,451.

Of the former, 1,488 were of males and 1,232 of females. Of the latter, 3,425 were male and 2,026 female. The excess of male deaths in the general population equalled 17 per cent., in the Indian 40 per cent.; but as the excess of males over females in the former class of the population, according to the census recently taken, equalled only 7 per cent., whilst in the latter it equalled 90 per cent., it follows that the proportional mortality of males in the general population was considerably higher than in the Indian; and yet the death rate of males was not remarkably high in either class, as will be seen from the following Table:—

General Population. Male Deaths to Male Population.	Indian Population. Male Deaths to Male Population.
2·87	2·41
Female Deaths to Female Population.	**Female Deaths to Female Population.**
2·56	2·70

The annual death rate of the general population was 2·72, that of the Indian 2·52. The total death rate was 2·58; a lower death rate than has been recorded since 1861, with the exception of that of 1870, which was 2·28. The death rates in each district are given in the following Table:—

	General Population.	Indian Population.	Total.
Port Louis - - -	2·82	3·74	3·21
Pamplemousses - - -	2·59	2·38	2·44
Rivière du Rempart - -	2·17	2·34	2·31
Flacq - - - - -	2·38	1·92	2·02
Grand Port - - -	2·95	2·61	2·704
Savanne - - - -	3·16	2·87	2·92
Plaines Wilhems - -	2·84	2·21	2·409
Black River - - -	2·40	2·55	2·508
Moka - - - -	2·53	2·11	2·23

Still-Births.

The total number of still-births registered was 897, equal to one in every 14 births. The proportion was (as usual) highest in Port Louis, and lowest in Moka. It was also comparatively low in Rivière du Rempart, Savanne, and Plaines Wilhems. It may be, however, that still-births in the country districts are not always declared.

Deaths at different Ages.

1,772 deaths, equal to 21·6 per cent. of the total mortality, were of children under one year of age. The proportion varied but little in the two sections of the population. Between the ages of 1 and 5 years, it was 6 per cent. higher in the general population. Between 5 and 25 years, 3 per cent. higher; but between the ages of 25 and 45, the proportional mortality was 16 per cent. higher in the Indian. Among the males the difference was still more remarkable, the pro-

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portions being 19 and 43 per cent. of the male deaths in the two classes respectively. The large proportion of Indian male deaths within the group of ages (25 to 45) which may be regarded as the prime of life, has been noticed in previous Reports, but no general inferences could be drawn from the fact pending the result of the census. We now find that 48 per cent. of the total male Indian population living on the 10th April were of ages ranging between 25 to 45 years, whilst the proportion of males of the general population within that group, formed only 29 per cent. of the whole; so that the high proportion of Indian male deaths at those ages is not so remarkable as it would appear at first sight. Between the ages of 45 and 65 the proportion was 2 per cent. higher among the Indian; but beyond that age the number of Indian deaths was very small, forming little more than 1 per cent. on the whole; whilst among the general population, deaths of persons over 65 formed 11 per cent. of the total number. Only 16 Indians died over 75 years of age, but the large number of those who return to India to end their days in their own country should be borne in mind. In the general population the number was 135, of which 60 males and 40 females were between 75 and 85 years; 14 males and 7 females between 85 and 95; and 6 males and 8 females over 95 years.

Deaths in Public Institutions.

The number of deaths which occurred in 12 public institutions was 736, and formed 9 per cent. of all the deaths in the year; of that number 254 occurred at the Civil Hospital, 22 at the Lunatic Asylum, 12 at the Vagrant Depôt, 16 at the Prisoners' Hospital, and 13 at the Railway Hospital in Port Louis, 121 at the Poor Law Hospital at Pamplemousses, 27 at the Reformatory, 10 at the Orphan Asylum, and 9 at the Powder Mills Prison, 62 at the Poor Law Hospital at Grand Port, and 8 at the Prison Hospital, and 182 at the Poor Law Asylum at Plaines Wilhems. In 10 public establishments of the town, in which a mean number of 1,950 engaged Indians were employed, the total deaths in the year were 46, equal to 2·3 per cent. of that number.

Causes of Death.

The most fatal diseases were fever, which in its several forms, including marasmus, or infantile remittent fever, caused 3,581 deaths, or 43 per cent. of the deaths from all causes; dysentery, 9·8 per cent., and consumption, 6·5 per cent. Fever was most fatal in the first quarter, and diseases of the respiratory system in the second. 3 deaths from simple cholera were registered, 1 at Port Louis, and 2 at Savanne. 31 from diphtheria, and 9 from hooping cough: of the latter 7 occurred at Savanne, in which district a large proportion of the deaths which result from that cause has been noticed in previous Reports. An epidemic of influenza prevailed in the early part of the year, and caused 9 deaths, 4 in Port Louis, and 5 at Grand Port. Diseases of the nervous system caused 671 deaths, 403 of which are recorded under the head of infantile convulsions.

90 per cent. of these deaths of children were declared without any medical certificate, nor would it appear that any medical man had been in attendance in these cases. The cause of death was generally stated to be either cramps, convulsions, or teething—cramps being by far the most common term employed. There were 60 deaths from tetanus, and 1 from hydrophobia, the latter at Grand Port, in the person of a male Indian, aged 40 years.

Diseases of the respiratory system caused 1,036 deaths, 12·6 per cent. of the total deaths, many of which, under the heads of pneumonia, pleuro, and broncho-pneumonia, &c., were complications of malarial fever, especially in Port Louis.

Diseases of the digestive system caused 1,160 deaths, of which 775 appear under the head of dysentery, and 130 under diarrhœa. It is difficult to determine how far fever may have been the primary cause of these deaths, but fully half the medical certificates which were received with these declarations of death from dysentery described the disease either as a complication, or sequel of fever. Diseases of the liver, giving rise to dropsy, which caused 105 deaths, may also be traced to the same first cause, as also diseases of the spleen. It is probable, indeed, that the endemic fever of Mauritius is directly or indirectly the cause of at least 60 per cent. of all the deaths that occur.

The number of deaths from affections consequent on parturition was 140, of which 34 occurred in Port Louis, 21 at Flacq, 19 at Grand Port, and 19 at Plaines Wilhems; the other five districts averaging about 9 each. The proportion of parturient women who died from that cause in the year was 11 per 1,000, which seems to be about the normal ratio in Mauritius; but compared with the countries of Europe, is excessively high.

Of the deaths recorded as from causes not clearly defined, a large proportion were registered as from debility, or some equally vague term.

The number of violent and accidental deaths was unusually large, and comprised 8 from poison, 4 of which were supposed to have been caused by the pois d'Achery, and 4 by alcohol. Burns and scalds caused 66 deaths, 37 persons were drowned, an Indian girl at Plaines Wilhems, aged 13, hanged herself by accident, when showing her young companions how the act was accomplished. The 56 deaths from other injuries include 16 which resulted from the boiler explosion at Plaines Wilhems.

There were 63 suicides in the year, and 17 homicides: of the former 53 were of male, and 6 female Indians, and 3 were of males, and 1 a female belonging to the general population; of the 17 homicides, 3 occurred at Pamplemousses, 6 at Flacq, 1 at Grand Port, 3 at Savanne, 3 at Plaines Wilhems, and 1 at Black River.

There was one execution in the year.

Health of the Colony.

The general health of the Island was good with the exception of the epidemic of influenza, which prevailed in the second and third quarters and an increase of fever in the district of Grand Port and

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Savanne. Influenza caused only 9 deaths, according to medical certificates received ; but the unusually large number of deaths from bronchitis and other diseases of the respiratory organs in other districts, would tend to show that the disease was not confined to the two districts in which the deaths from that cause were registered. Fever declared itself with great virulence rather earlier in the year in the district of Grand Port.

Towards the middle of March, intermittent fever was reported to prevail on the "Mon Trésor" and Virginia estates, and at the village of Bouchon ; but the mortality was not great ; 81 deaths against 75 in the corresponding month of 1870. In the month of April, especially after the heavy rains, malarious fever appears to have spread pretty generally, extending even to the highest parts of the districts. Between the 24th and 30th April there were 200 cases of fever at the village of Bouchon ; 81 on the Virginia estate ; 87 Mon Desert ; 18 at Rivière Créole ; and 80 at Union Vale. The total deaths in the month were 128, of which 63 were caused by fever. Dysentery was also prevalent and fatal, and was probably malarious. In May, Dr. Gouly reported that the disease was assuming a more serious aspect, and that the mortality was increasing.

It would appear that in April and May four-fifths of the men employed on the Virginia estate were on the sick list ; at Savania all the men on the estate had been attacked, and many suffered from dysentery. Similar reports were received in regard to La Barraque, Trou d'eau, and Union Vale,—of the last-mentioned estate, however, it was stated that a band of 156 men who were located on an elevated plateau considerably above the level of the Marshes, had almost entirely escaped. In the villages of Bouchon, Cambuse, and Les Mares, all more or less marshy localities, 372 cases of fever had been treated at the Poor Law Dispensary between April 1st and May 17th. In the Old Grand Port district, the places mentioned as having suffered more or less were Rivière Créole, Beau Vallon, Ferney, Belle Vue, Bambou, and Petit Sable. On the sea coast of Old Grand Port, it is stated that fever declared itself much about the same time, but with less intensity than in the interior. On the higher parts of the district, as at Cluny, the cases were not numerous, but there were several at Eau Bleue, in the district of Cent Gaulettes. The proportional mortality from fever and dysentery in the second quarter in the district of Grand Port was 67 per cent. of the deaths from all causes.

In my Report for the quarter ending 31st of March, I stated that the sanitary condition of Savanne appeared to be deteriorating, that malarious fever was spreading, and had been unusually fatal in Petite Savanne, especially in that part of it bordering the coast. And that of the nine deaths recorded from diphtheria and malignant sore throat, five had occurred at Savanne.

Deaths from dysentery were also more numerous than usual.

The proportion of deaths from fever alone in that period was 47 per cent., but the mortality was pretty generally distributed, and not much higher than the average of former years. Towards the end of March, fever was reported to be increasing both in extent and intensity, specially at Ligne Grenier and on some estates near the sea

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shore, as Bel Ombre, Beau Champ, Frederica and Choisy. In April the epidemic assumed a truly malignant character on the Bel Ombre estate, no less than 41 men having died in that and the following month. The severity of the disease began to abate towards the end of May, the mortality of the district in June having declined from 114 to 67. The proportion of deaths from fever and dysentery in the second quarter of the year in Savanne formed 72 per cent. of the deaths from all causes.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary.

C. F. EDWARDS,
Registrar General.

REPORT of PROTECTOR of IMMIGRANTS.

To His Excellency The Honourable A. H. GORDON, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Mauritius and its Dependencies.

19th July, 1872.

May it please Your Excellency,

I beg leave to submit my Report for the year 1871.

2. The immigration of that year was as follows :— Immigration of 1871.

	M.	F.	Total.
From Calcutta - -	1,593	646	2,339
„ Madras - -	725	328	1,053
	2,318	974	3,292

3. These immigrants arrived in 11 ships; 7 of which came from Calcutta.

4. Two ships from Calcutta, and the four that came from Madras, arrived without having lost any of their passengers. The total mortality on board of the other five vessels amounted to 23. Mortality at sea.

The ratio of mortality in the whole immigration of the year was 6·9 per thousand.

In the two previous years it had been as follows :—

Ratio of Deaths in Immigrant Ships.

1869 - -	5·3 per 1,000
1870 - - -	5·8 „

5. The proportion of females in the immigration of each of the last three years is shown by the following figures ;— Proportion of females in immigration.

1869 - - -	42·3 per cent.
1870 - - -	43·9 „
1871 - - -	42·0 „

6. The average cost of introduction charged on employers has been 9*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* per male adult from Calcutta, and 11*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* per male adult from Madras. Cost of introduction.

In 1870 the charges were 9*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* for Calcutta immigrants, and 9*l.* 14*s.* for immigrants from Madras.

7. At the end of the year a great many requisitions remained un- Requisitions.

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satisfied, and many had lapsed. The immigrants due on requisitions remaining to be carried out amounted to 5,560. The wages proposed by requisitionists having since been raised from 8 to 10 shillings per month for adult male immigrants, it may be hoped that recruitments will proceed a little faster

Recruitments.

8. Adverting to the means of removing the difficulties they have encountered in recruiting labourers for Mauritius, our agents have suggested that the proportion of females in emigration from India be reduced, and that the female emigrants be engaged as well as the male. They have besides pointed out that there is an important difference between the terms they propose and those proposed by the other labour-recruiting agents, inasmuch as the latter offer free return-passages, which are not agreed to in the engagements passed for Mauritius.

9. The rules as to the proportion of females have not been altered, there being serious reasons for their maintenance; but the engagement of female emigrants for one year's service has been authorized. The question whether the system of granting free return-passages should or should not be reverted to has already undergone a long and searching examination by the Legislative Council, and, being one of the most important questions involved in our immigration system, will doubtless be fully considered by the commission of inquiry now in the Colony. Meanwhile I believe that the resolution passed by the Council of Government on the 21st May last in favour of the restoration of free return-passages will itself tend to facilitate the operations of our agents.

Sub-agency of Vizagapatam.

10. At the suggestion of our agent at Madras, a sub-agency was opened at the beginning of 1871 in the northern part of that Presidency. The annual cost of this branch establishment is 508*l*. With a view to test the utility of this new establishment, I recommend that our agent at Madras be called upon to state the number of recruits he has received from the sub-agent since his appointment.

Abolition of Bombay agency.

11. On the death of Mr. J. Freeman, our agent at Bombay (which occurred on the 25th December last), our agency at that port was closed, there being no demands for labourers from that part of India.

Emigration of 1869, 1870 and 1871.

12. The departures of immigrants and their families during the last three years have been as follows:—

	M.	F.	Total.
1869 - -	1,684	636	2,320
1870 - - -	2,172	670	2,842
1871 - -	2,369	705	3,074

13. The immigrants who left the Colony in 1871 embarked for the following destinations:—

	M.	F.	Total.
Calcutta - - -	1,660	415	2,075
Madras - - -	387	134	521
Bombay - - -	194	101	295
Other Places - -	128	55	183

14. The departures of immigrants at their own expense and at Government expense respectively, during the last three years, are shown by the following figures:—

	At Government Expense.			At their own Expense.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1869 - - -	376	51	427	1,308	585	1,893
1870 - - -	597	94	691	1,575	576	2,151
1871 - - -	766	140	906	1,603	565	2,168

15. The proportion of females to males in the emigration of the three last years has been as follows:— Proportion of females in emigration.

1869 - - - 37·7 per cent.
1870 - - - 30·8 „
1871 - - - 29·7 „

16. The average cost of passages hence to India has been as follows during the last three years:— Average cost of passage hence to India.

	1869.			1870.			1871.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Calcutta - -	3	17	9	3	16	8	3	16	1
„ Madras - - -	4	0	0	3	18	4	3	12	0
„ Bombay - -	3	18	6	4	0	0	3	16	0

17. The total Indian immigrant population in the Colony on the 10th April last was, according to the census taken on that day, 153,703:—109,173 males and 44,530 females. Indian immigrant population at the end of 1871.

These numbers decreased as follows during the year:—

Between day of census and end of 1871:—

	M.	F.	Total.
Departures - - -	1,689	530	2,219
Deaths - - - -	1,773	742	2,515
	3,462	1,272	4,734
Arrivals - - -	2,122	894	3,016
Decreases - - -	1,340	378	1,718

Thus the immigrants remaining in the Island were reduced to the following numbers:—

Males - - - - -	107,833
Females - - - - -	44,152
Total - - -	151,985

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Births.

18. The births which occurred in the Indian immigrant population between the 11th April and 31st December, 1871, were in excess of the deaths:—

Males - - - - -	1,880
Females - - - - -	1,818
Total . - - - -	3,698

19. In comparing the births and deaths mentioned in the two foregoing paragraphs it will be seen that whereas the females in births nearly equal the males in number, in deaths they scarcely stand in the proportion of 42 per cent. compared to the males.

The same difference between births and deaths (i. e. a relative excess of females in the former), is noticeable throughout our immigration statistics; and this, as I have previously had occasion to point out, has been one of the causes of the steady progression of the relative proportion of females to males in our Indian population.

Stipendiary magistrates' returns for half-year ended 31st December, 1871.

20. The particulars mentioned in the returns of the stipendiary magistrates for the half-year ended 31st December, 1871, have been tabulated.

In regard to the numbers of labourers stated in those returns to be employed by proprietors and job-contractors respectively, it is well to remark that as those numbers have not all been returned on the same day, they cannot be taken as accurately representing the labouring population.

Indian population of sugar estates on the 10th April, 1871.

21. On the 10th April, 1871, the Indian population on the sugar-estates was as follows, according to the census taken on that day:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Immigrants—			
From Calcutta - - - -	36,815	12,836	49,651
„ Madras - - - - -	18,086	9,090	27,176
„ Bombay - - - - -	5,035	2,143	7,178
Indo-Mauritians - - - - -	16,192	14,863	31,055
Free Indian Passengers - - -	40	12	52
Total - - - - - -	76,168	38,944	115,112

Daily average of absentees.

22. The daily average of absentees on the estates is represented by the magistrates' returns to have been 5,823, which is 8·8 per cent. of the labouring population returned by them.

Desertions.

23. The total number of deserters reported by the stipendiary magistrates as remaining unarrested was 1,930; which is 2·9 per cent. of the labouring population of the estates. The number re-captured during the last half-year of 1871 amounted to 356.

Wages in arrear.

24. The estates which owed more than 2 months' wages when visited by the magistrates were as follows:—

10 Estates owed 3 months' wages.
3 „ „ 4 „ „
1 „ „ 5 „ „

Wages in arrear beyond 2 months did not exist on so large a scale as in the previous year, when no less than 31 estates had been found

owing more than 2 months' pay. But the improvement, I am glad to say, has gone even further; the system of *monthly payments*, in preference to which *bi-monthly payments* had generally been adopted, was followed on a larger number of estates. As the contracts of service stipulate that the wages have to be paid *monthly*, and as there are strong reasons making it desirable that the contracts should not be deviated from in that respect, I trust that the practice of making *monthly payments* will soon become the *rule* instead of being as it was the *exception*.

Deaths and death-rate on sugar estates.

25. The mortality on sugar estates since 1869 has been as follows:—

1869	3,701	= 30 per 1,000
*1870	2,352	= 16 „
1871	2,841	= 21 „

26. The estates of Plaines Wilhems gave the lowest death-rate; and those of Rivière du Rempart the highest:—

Plaines Wilhems	16 per 1,000
Rivière du Rempart	25 „

Deaths and death-rate in total population.

27. The deaths and death-rate of each year in the total population have been as follows:—

	No. of Deaths.	Ratio.
1869	11,295	= 35·0 per 1,000
1870	7,426	= 22·8 „
1871	8,171	= 25·8 „

Wages and allowances.

28. The average rates of wages and allowances at the end of 1871 are shown in Appendices F and G.†

Engagements of 1871.

29. The different rates at which the engagements of 1871 were contracted in each district of the Colony are given in Appendix H. The rate at which the largest number of men were engaged was 16*s.* per month (besides food, lodging, and medical care). The number of men engaged at that rate was 21,803.

30. Of the 75,885 men engaged in 1871 within the Colony, 47,713 re-engaged themselves to the employers they had already served. Those who changed masters numbered 28,172.‡

31. The periods for which the contracts were entered into were as follows:—

3 months or less			236
More than 3 months	and not more than	6 months	4,180
„ 6 „	„	1 year	53,912
„ 1 year	„	1½ „	7,390
„ 1½ „	„	2 years	7,566
„ 2 years	„	4 „	1,902
„ 4 „	„	5 „	699

* In Appendix F of my 12th Annual Report, 8th column, instead of *centesimal*, read *millesimal*.

† The Government scale of wages and allowances (the scale according to which wages and allowances are proposed to emigrants by the Government Agents in India when no terms are mentioned in requisitions) was altered on the 9th February last, in consequence of a rise of 2*s.* per month in the rates proposed by requisitionists. Appendices not printed.

‡ These numbers do not include the new immigrants who arrived in 1871 under engagements passed in India.

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Creole labourers.

32. The engagements of Creole labourers continued increasing:—

1869	2,938
1870	3,004
1871	4,159

Decrease in convictions of Indian immigrants on complaints preferred by their employers.

33. The convictions of Indian immigrants on complaints preferred against them by their employers or overseers have very greatly decreased:—

Offences.	Convictions.		
	1869.	1870.	1871.
Refusing to work	282	298	241
Unlawful absences	1,719	1,431	826
Desertion	3,627	2,240	2,190
Mischievously injuring employers' property	3	160	10
Insubordination, assault, &c.	51	86	27
Using false papers	17	49	10
Other charges	139	132	87
Total	5,838	4,396	3,395

Decrease in convictions of masters on complaints of their servants.

34. The convictions of masters, on complaints made by their servants, have also greatly declined:—

Offences.	Convictions.		
	1869.	1870.	1871.
Non-payment of wages	3,518	2,031	1,215
Complaints relative to rations	59	63	27
Refusal of medical care	6	10	16
Non-delivery of tickets and other papers	195	225	171
Assault	99	92	120
Other charges	59	86	29
Total	3,936	2,507	1,578

35. The numbers given in paragraph 37 of my 12th Annual Report have to be rectified: the *complaints* of 1868 were erroneously quoted instead of the *convictions*;—and the convictions both of that year and of the years 1869 and 1870 comprised the sentences for vagrancy and many others which had wrongly been included in the magistrates' returns. The rectified figures, however, still show a steady diminution in convictions, both of masters on complaints of their servants, and of servants on complaints preferred by their masters.

Complaints from sugar estates.

36. The convictions mentioned in the three last preceding paragraphs do not refer to the sugar estates exclusively; the complaints received by the stipendiary magistrates in 1871 from and against the labourers on the sugar estates are respectively given in Appendix R.

This tabulated statement shows that no complaints whatever were made by either employers or labourers of 40 estates; and that the complaints from the other estates were as follows:—

From Employers against Labourers—		
Decided against Complainants - -	147	1,670
„ „ Defendants - - -	1,523	
From Labourers against Employers—		
Decided against Complainants - -	284	465
„ „ Defendants - - -	181	
Total - - - - -		2,135

37. Comparing these figures with those reported upon in paragraphs 33 and 34, I find that out of 3,395 convictions against Indian immigrants on complaints by their employers, only 1,523 were pronounced against labourers belonging to sugar estates; and that out of 1,578 convictions against masters on complaints preferred by their servants, not more than 181 were pronounced against employers on sugar estates.

38. The convictions in the Court of Assizes during 1870 and 1871 give the following numbers:— Convictions in the Court of Assizes.

	Indians.	Others.	Total.
1870 - - -	59	9	68
1871 - - -	59	21	78

39. The convictions of all the Criminal Courts (including the Court of Assizes) show a large decrease, especially in the offences committed by Indians:— Convictions in all the Criminal Courts.

		1870.	1871.
Indians - -	Males - -	6,419	3,637
	Females - -	135	127
Others - - -	Males - -	1,326	1,194
	Females - -	89	108
	Total - -	7,969	5,066

40. The following suicides were reported to the officers of the Civil Status in 1870 and 1871:— Suicides.

		1870.	1871.
Europeans - -	Males - -	1	3
	Females - -	0	0
Creoles - - -	Males - -	5	1
	Females - -	1	1
Chinese - - -	Males - -	1	0
	Females - -	0	0
Indians - - -	Males - -	56	53
	Females - -	3	4
Not distinguished -	Males - -	0	2
	Females - -	0	0
		67	64

41. The last Annual Report of the manager of the Savings' Bank

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Savings and Remittances of Indian immigrants.

gives the following particulars in regard to savings deposited by Indian immigrants:—

Deposited in 1871—	£	s.	d.
By New Immigrants	328	6	6
„ Old „	21,941	16	1½
„ Indian Creoles	1,043	6	8
„ Free Indian Passengers	2,257	11	10
Total	£25,571	1	1½

Deposits remaining at end of 1871—	£	s.	d.
Belonging to New Immigrants	181	15	5
„ Old „	75,604	6	8
„ Indian Creoles	4,872	19	1
„ Free Indian Passengers	2,250	11	3
Total	£82,909	12	5

42. The remittances made to India by Indian immigrants through the Immigration Office during the last three years have been as follows:—

	Rupees.
1869—To Calcutta	14,973
„ Madras	1,030
„ Bombay	1,155
Total	17,158

	Rupees.
1870—To Calcutta	16,818
„ Madras	2,590
„ Bombay	1,120
Total	20,528

	Rupees.
1871—To Calcutta	18,600
Madras	1,656
Bombay	—
Total	20,256

43. Many immigrants who return to India, instead of applying for drafts on the Indian Government, take their savings with them in cash, notwithstanding the warning they receive from me as to the risks to which they expose themselves. In most of these cases it is difficult to ascertain the amounts of savings they possess.

Laws of 1871 concerning immigrants.

44. Of the laws enacted in 1871, the only two directly affecting immigrants are the following:—

Ordinance 17 of 1871.—To amend and consolidate the laws of the Colony relating to the Civil Status.

Ordinance 34 of 1871.—To provide for the appointment of inspectors of immigrants.

By the former of these ordinances the pre-existing enactments regarding marriages of Indian immigrants were consolidated. The other provides for the inspection of all estates and establishments where Indian immigrants are employed or located.

Marriages of immigrants.

45. In regard to the marriages of Indian immigrants further legislation seems to me to be necessary, for the protection of the children of those who have been already introduced into the Colony with more than one wife; and, until the civil rights of such children be clearly regulated and settled by law, I think that no immigrant should be introduced with more than one wife.

Inspection of estates.

46. The ordinance providing for the appointment of Inspectors of immigrants is intended to bring about a more efficient inspection of estates than could be obtained under former arrangements.

Owing to the large number of estates to be visited (217) and to there being upwards of 70,000 labourers settled upon them, a complete tour of inspection every year could hardly be performed by the protector unless he were relieved from his duties in Port Louis the greater part of the year,—which would obviously be displacing him from his proper functions.*

On the other hand, the stipendiary magistrates who had been entrusted with the duty of inspecting each estate twice a year, were not invested by law with the power of making the necessary investigations on their visits, and, besides, were too much occupied with the business of their courts to perform the inspections as fully and efficiently as was desirable.

For these reasons the new ordinance was passed providing for the nomination of special inspectors.

47. The more minute inspections contemplated by the new law will, I feel quite confident, operate to the benefit of both the employer and the labourer. They will check irregularities at their birth; they will hinder transgressions aud non-observances of law from growing apace, wherever they may arise—whether on the one side or the other;—they will, it is true, primarily safeguard the rights of immigrants; but, in doing so, they will doubtless also promote the interests of employers, for the interests of both classes are, without any question, inseparably linked together.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. N. D. BEYTS,
Protector of Immigrants,

* The impracticability of the protector's *personally* undertaking a thorough performance of the duty of inspecting estates having no doubt been recognized by the Executive, the Regulations of the 29th September 1864, which required the protector to visit each estate once a year, were repealed by Government Notice No. 72 of the 14th May 1868.

(No. 82.) Colonial Secretary's Office,
June 12, 1872.

The following Report on the operation of the Government Savings' Bank for the year 1871, having been laid before his Excellency the Governor, is hereby published for general information.

EDWARD NEWTON, Colonial Secretary.

Government Savings' Bank,
June 1, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honour to lay before your Excellency the annual Report of the Government Savings' Bank for the past year 1871.

2. The Report is accompanied with the usual appendices, giving in detail the necessary explanatory information as regards the movements of the bank during the above period, and will, I trust, show its improved and satisfactory position. For I am glad to be able to state that in each instance affecting its prosperity it has been much improved.

3. The number of depositors have increased, and the amount deposited by them has also considerably augmented, while, on the other hand, the number for withdrawals have decreased, both in number and in amount, thus showing a desire on the part of the public to make use of the bank.

4. The Indian population have increased in number and amount, from their continuing to pay in moneys: silver, which had evidently been buried for some time in the earth; it being found more profitable and safe to put their savings in the bank.

5. The general result of last year's operations has been that there are now 8,616 depositors, who hold deposits to the amount of 203,864*l.*, being an increase during the year of 743 depositors and 20,790*l.* in the amount received.

6. The increase of new depositors since 1867 has risen to 1,879, and the amount in deposit to 40,271*l.*, giving an average augmentation of 376 depositors and 8,054*l.* per annum for five years. It is further satisfactory to be able to state that the depositors have continued to increase; from the 1st January to the end of May last there has been 832 new and reopened accounts with deposits amounting to 39,672*l.*; during the same period there has been 214 accounts closed, and 8,854*l.* withdrawn.

7. This withdrawal is to be in a great measure explained by the number of depositors who have withdrawn their moneys, which had been for some time accumulating, to invest them, and to the number of Indians who have already left this year, taking with them 7,801*l.*

8. Appendix No. 1 contains in abstract the different movements of the bank on comparison with the preceding year. It shows more clearly the favourable changes which have taken place in the bank, and points its actual position.

9. Appendix No. 2 is a monthly statement of its operation during the year, and stands as follows:—

Years.	No. of new Depositors.	Total Amount deposited.	No. of Accounts closed.	Total Amount withdrawn, including interest.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1871 - -	1,660	70,286 4 11¼	917	58,396 19 1
1870 - - -	1,563	63,196 2 6½	1,103	61,005 17 6¼
Increase - -	97	7,090 2 4¾	—	—
Decrease - -	—	—	186	2,608 18 5¼

The sums deposited and withdrawn are divided thus:—

	Amount deposited.	Amount withdrawn.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
General population - -	44,715 3 9¾	37,297 17 10
Indian population - - -	25,571 1 1½	21,099 1 3
Total - - -	£70,286 4 11¼	£58,396 19 1

and gives the comparative increase and decrease of the last two years.

GENERAL POPULATION.

	Deposits.	Payments.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1871 - - - - - -	44,715 3 9¾	37,297 17 10
1870 - - - - - -	40,479 9 2½	39,877 3 2½
Increase - - -	£4,235 14 7¼	—
Decrease - - -	—	£2,579 5 4½

INDIAN POPULATION.

	Deposits.	Payments.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1871 - - - - - -	25,571 1 1½	21,099 1 3
1870 - - - - - -	21,999 12 11	20,535 3 11½
Increase - - -	£3,571 8 2½	£563 17 3½
Decrease - - -	—	—

showing a large increase of 4,235*l.* 14*s.* 7¼*d.* in the deposit and a decrease of 2579*l.* 5*s.* 4½*d.* in the payment by general population, and an increase both in the deposit and payment by Indian population.

10. Appendix No. 3 explains the causes of the amount withdrawn from the bank during last year. As regards the Indian population, a larger number, 238 depositors, left the Colony taking with them 7,801*l.*, which was in excess of the preceding year of 16 in number and 2,459*l.* in amount, the average being 33*l.* per each Indian, and an increase of 46 per cent. when compared with the previous year.

11. 74 Indian depositors have average 1,766*l.* in property in the Island during the year, being an invested of 24*l.* per each depositor. During the last five years, this class, numbering 392, has invested 10,560*l.* in the bank, or an average of 27*l.* per depositor.

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12. With respect to the general population, the number of depositors who proceeded to Europe has been considerably less as also the amount they have withdrawn, being in each instance rather less than one-half; there has been a slight increase in the number proceeding to other places, attended with a slight increase in the amount withdrawn.

There has been an increase in the investments, but less for commercial purposes; a great number of succession have been arranged and the head of miscellaneous objects reduced, because depositors choose to give more information as to the motives of withdrawal.

13. The desire of this class of the population to deposit in this bank has been no doubt stimulated from their getting a higher rate of interest, rather high when compared with the present rate of money, than they can obtain elsewhere; where they know that their money is safe, and can be had with an eight days' notice. At the same time, no individual can deposit more than 75*l.* during the year, it tends to swell the amount, and after a year or two causes heavy withdrawals.

14. It is not an uncommon circumstance for a person to continue for a time to deposit money for his family, then at once, suddenly withdraw the whole of it, 700*l.*, to make an investment.

15. The total amount withdrawn had decreased during the year from 61,055*l.* to 58,395*l.*, a difference of 3,710*l.*

16. Appendix No. 4 gives in detail the number of the several classes of depositors belonging to the general and Indian population who held deposits at the end of the year. A statement showing the amount held by each class of the Indian population is annexed to it.

17. As regards the Indian population, it shows in general an increase in the number of depositors and in the amount held by them as follows:—

	Number.	Amount.
		£
Artisans and mechanics - -	112	2,941
Servants - - - -	42	186
Children - - - - -	52	1,702
Miscellaneous - - - -	398	6,151
Giving a total of - - -	604	£10,980

the only decrease being in the number and amount held by the agricultural labourers 134, 1,590*l.*, which is covered by depositors under these heads:—

	Number.	Amount.
		£
Government servants - - -	58	1,136
Police - - - - - -	83	1,782
Municipality - - - -	2	22
Giving a total of - - -	143	£2,940

18. General population shows in all cases but four an increase numbering 221, amounting to 11,738*l.*, and a decrease under the following heads:—

	Number.	Amount.
		£
Agricultural labourers - -	12	267
Artisans and mechanics - - -	2	1,310
Police - - - - - -	63	1,364
Municipality - - - -	6	440
Giving a total of - - -	83	£3,381

19. Appendix No. 5 refers to the operations of the branch banks. They have on the whole improved both in number and in the amount deposited. There has been 779 deposits made amounting to 11,036*l.*, being an increase on last year of 54 new depositors, and 110 additional deposits, and of 3,438*l.* in the amount received, thus showing, it may be hoped, an increased desire to make use of the branch banks, so desirable in many respects, particularly as regards the Indian population.

20. Grand Port exhibits no great change during the year.

21. Savanne, the most distant from Port Louis, has increased in the number of new depositors (14) and in the amount received 193*l.*, particularly on the part of the Indian population.

22. Flacq—this branch has, in every respect, shown an increase in the number of depositors (11), in the amount received 702*l.*, and in the amount paid 374*l.*; also the sums deposited by Indians had increased from 165*l.* to 348*l.*

23. Rivière du Rempart has also increased in the same satisfactory manner, showing an increase of depositors (6) and an increase of 835*l.* in the sum deposited.

24. Black River shows a favourable increase both in the number of depositors (12) and in the amount deposited 771*l.*, and also an increase in the amount paid 144*l.*

25. Plaines Wilhems has remarkably increased last year, the number of new depositors having augmented to 22, and the amount deposited being 785*l.* over last year.

26. Pamplemousses shows a slight increase in the number and amount received, and a decrease in the amount paid.

27. Moka—a decrease is shown in the number of new depositors, but an increase on the total of the deposits made (18), and in the amount deposited 249*l.*

28. The Indian population seem to understand better the facilities offered them by the branch banks.

29. Appendices No. 6 and 7 refer to the distribution and fluctuation in the classes of depositors and the amount of deposits standing to the credit of each class at the end of the year.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. C. BROWNRIGG

Acting Manager.

REPORT on the STATE of EDUCATION in the GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS of MAURITIUS for the year 1871.

To His Excellency the Honourable SIR ARTHUR HAMILTON GORDON, K.C.M.G., Governor, &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

Introduction. I have the honour to lay before your Excellency my Report on Public Instruction in Mauritius for the year 1871, so far as it concerns the operations of the Schools' Department.

Nature of present Report. This Report deals with Government schools exclusively, and is entirely distinct from the Report required by law from the Inspector of Schools under the conditions of Ord. 6 of 1856 on the working of Schools, assisted by annual grant from the Colonial Treasury, to be laid before the Governor in Executive Council each year.

The schools in operation at present number 33 for the general population, and 17 for the Indians; in all 50. These, however, comprise about 70 departments taught by separate head teachers. The majority of these are of a mixed character, by which is meant schools wherein both sexes are instructed in the same room

I am by no means disposed to look upon this arrangement as a good one. It is open to strong and palpable objections here, as elsewhere; and, but for the force of circumstances, would never have been resorted to. Before long I hope to see it superseded altogether by the erection or hire of detached buildings in which the necessity of combining boys aud girls in the same class may be entirely obviated.

Attendance. From the tabulated statement of monthly attendances for the year 1871, it will be seen that there were under instruction in the schools for the month of November 4,224 children of the general population, and 653 Indians; in all 4,877, exclusive of the 280 under detention in the schools of the Government reformatory, Calebasses.

Comparing these returns with those of the corresponding period of last year, an increase of 401 pupils is exhibited.

The schools most numerously attended are those of Port Louis, the

Central School having - - -	428 pupils
Western Suburb - - - -	370 „
Eastern Suburb - - - -	264 „
Champ de Lort - - - - -	379 „
Pamplemousses - - - -	212 „
Mahebourg - - - - -	216 „
Flacq - - - - - -	271 „

Five others have an average of 135 pupils each.

The teaching staff on November 30th (exclusive of those employed in assisted schools) comprised 54 masters; 27 mistresses; 15 male and 7 female assistants; and 79 pupil teachers, monitors, and monitresses.

Successful working of the Revised Code. The past year presents a course of steady progress, due in no small degree to the successful working out of the principles embodied in

the educational scheme now generally adopted in England, and popularly known under the name of the Revised Code.

Modifications found necessary.

Upon its introduction to Mauritius it was found necessary to modify some of its provisions with a view to meet the educational exigencies of the Colony. This adaptation, however, interferes with a strict comparison of results, gained under the working of the scheme here, with those obtained in England; two languages being in use, and which, more or less, have to be taught by means of a defective and unwritten medium.

Code secures satisfaction to all parties.

The advantages, notwithstanding, are great, and the most experienced teachers in the service regard the change as highly beneficial. The plan of individual examination necessarily imposes an increased amount of time, labour, and patience, but the additional trouble is fully compensated for by the satisfaction which the process ensures to all parties concerned.

Test and epithets employed.

The test is simple and specific. The verdict of the pupil himself can only accord with that of the inspector. The scholar knows, without being told, whether he has won his "pass" or lost it.

The epithets employed are two in number, *good* and *fair*. Two of the former and one of the latter confer a "pass;" anything short of this brings "failure," and the pupil must wait another year before he can again be presented, or claim promotion to the next higher grade.

Further on will be found an analysis of results obtained by examination in the manner above described.

Reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Basis of instruction in Government schools.

Reading, writing, and arithmetic, form the basis of elementary education in the Government schools. The supplementary subjects of instruction are geography and grammar, to which, in the upper school, Port Louis, are added algebra, Euclid, drawing, history, and the Hindoostanee language.

Higher subjects.

The subject of English and French history is considerably in the background. The want of suitable text-books is much felt. Several specimens from time to time have been obtained from Europe, all more or less disfigured with such strong political or religious views as to render their adoption objectionable.

Mapping.

Mapping, too, has somewhat fallen into arrear. Still in many schools outline maps are readily sketched from memory; and in a few, some brought up for inspection, produced under a more patient process as home lessons, were only slightly inferior to engraved copies.

Its utility.

With the practice of map-drawing, geographical knowledge usually keeps pace. As the area and configurations of an estate are best learnt by measurement and plotting, so are the ports, rivers, inlets, and other physical peculiarities of a country best learnt by mapping them down. But an intelligent scholar will not stop here. He will not rest satisfied until he has acquired some knowledge of its commercial resources and its industrial pursuits. He will want to know something, too, of its past history, and will desire to cultivate an acquaintance with its people.

A person who has never perigrinated beyond the confines of his own hamlet is likely to be an individual of very limited views and very unlimited prejudices. The study of geography (with history as an auxiliary) tends to remedy this defect.

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Grammatical knowledge.

Technically considered, the pupils have acquitted themselves very creditably during the recent examinations in grammatical knowledge. Some have slightly overshot the mark, and, in a few instances, I found that they had attempted too much, which led me at once to take them back to the rudiments, in order to convince them of the fact.

Letter writing.

Many of the *impromptu* letters called for under the head of writing elicited well-merited praise. Some were struck off with an ability which must have been as gratifying to the teachers as they were to myself. The subject is usually announced in the manner following:

"Write to the general manager of railways; inform him that you left in a railway carriage, on such a date, a parasol, of which you can give a description; and request that the same, if found, may be sent to care of station master, Curepipe."

The art of speaking should be cultivated.

I should be rejoiced to see in boys' schools an equal facility in *speaking* upon any given theme. I am afraid, in this utilitarian age, sufficient attention is rarely paid to the cultivation of a talent peculiar to the human race. Of rare linguistic abilities, the children of Mauritius might, under systematic and skilful culture, rival the best elocutionists in the world.

By speaking, I do not mean simple recitation, but the delivery of impromptu or previously-studied locution.

Uses of reading, writing, and speaking.

It has been very logically and quaintly put by an English author that reading makes a full man; writing a correct man; but speaking a ready one.

The English and French languages are taught simultaneously.

The English and French languages are taught in all Creole schools simultaneously. In Indian schools the English is taught in combination with one of the vernaculars.

Knowledge of English a stepping-stone to promotion.

To the progress made in English I think may reasonably be attributed a good portion of the success which, during the last four years, has attended the efforts of Government boys to obtain appointments to positions of trust and emolument, which at one time were the exclusive appanage of a select few. I have no cause, on the present occasion, to complain that the study of English has, during the past year, been neglected.

The successful working of the Normal Institution gives hope that, at no far distant date, a similar establishment, in which a superior education can also be afforded to girls, may be brought into operation. At present the boys have unquestionably the lion's share at the banquet. The Royal College has no female affiliated institution, nor has the Schools' Department anything superior to what its ordinary programme supplies, to offer by way of encouragement to deserving girls. It has been suggested that industrial scholarships might not be out of character, the recipients being bound to appropriate the proceeds of their bourse to learning some profession or trade, such as that of a teacher, milliner, dressmaker, and so forth.

School buildings.

Some progress has, during the past year, been made in school architecture. The new schools recently erected at Pamplemousses and Champ de Lort are picturesque, commodious, and substantial.

Vote for school-fittings exhausted.

The vote for furniture has been entirely spent. The fittings supplied by the department of the Surveyor-General are, in quality and finish, equal to anything of the kind produced by the educational

workshops of Europe, and requisitions have been complied with by Mr. Mann, in the absence of Mr. Connal, with a courtesy and readiness which place the Schools' Department under special obligations to that gentleman and his assistants.

New schools.

In pursuance of instructions, three new schools have been opened since the commencement of the year, viz. a boys' school at Curepipe, which now numbers 58 pupils; one at Bambous, mixed, which has on roll 40; and a third at Vacoas, mixed, containing 48. The Church of England S. P. G. Mission School, Plaine Verte, has been handed over to the Department.

Projected. Schools for 1872.

Provision has been made in the Budget of 1872 for the establishment of others at the Post of Flacq, Rivière Sèche, and Rose Belle. These I hope to bring into operation during the first quarter of the coming year, provided suitable buildings in the meanwhile can be obtained.

School fees.

The amount received as education fees does not stand at so high a figure as could be wished.

The State not bound to provide free education for its subjects.

People living under an indulgent, paternal Government are slow to comprehend that the State is not bound to educate its subjects at the expense of the public purse. The entire receipts for the year amount to 814*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, or about the 1-15th of the entire vote expended for primary instruction.

Free-schools an obstacle to the collection of fees.

Wherever an aided school exists, in which fees are professedly not called for, a strong and plausible excuse is afforded for non-payment by the parents of Government scholars.

Result of sending away non-paying scholars.

It not unfrequently occurs, even where indigence cannot be pleaded, that, when children are sent back for their school fees, they either go over to a free-school or wander about the district for weeks, and sometimes months, before returning to duty.

Orphan children admitted free.

Orphans are usually admitted free upon proof being furnished of their condition as such.

Sanitary state of the pupils.

The sanitary state of the schools is greatly improved. The children upon the whole are now better clad and less susceptible to attacks from fever than formerly.

Moral tone of Government schools.

As regards the moral tone of the schools, I am happy to state that the "Occurrence Books" bear almost uniform testimony to the absence of grave offences. Scribbling obscene characters on any wall, door, desk, or book, is followed by immediate dismissal. During the last twelve months no application of this apparently severe law has been found necessary. Under a system of education exclusively secular this fact is no mean testimony to its working merits.

Religious instruction.

While the State itself cannot become the apostle of creeds, or the leader of denominational enterprise, it offers full scope and latitude to all whose vocation it is to instruct and fortify the souls of its subjects in matters of faith and conscience.*

Organization and discipline.

In point of organization and discipline, the schools fully satisfy all reasonable expectations. A more severe *régime* would, I think, be irksome and pedantic.

Visitors.

Obedience is prompt, and orders are executed without undue noise

* The monthly returns for November show that 22 schools are under catechetical instructions by the Roman Catholic clergy, and that 3 are attended by the Anglican clergy.

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of fuss. Visitors to Government schools testify to the courtesy with which they are received, and of the marked respect shown in appreciation of their presence.

Hindoostanee.

The Hindoostanee classes continue to be carried on under Sheik Yerr Ally in the principal town schools. His pupils at present number 162.

The annual Grade Examinations commenced on August 1st, and terminated at the end of November.

Analyis of Grade Examinations.

Forty schools, or departments of schools, have this year been submitted to the test. Of this number, 9 were boys' schools, 8 were girls', and 23 were of a mixed kind.

In Schedule B will be found fully detailed the merit standing of every school examined, from which the following summary has been compiled:—

Standard I.		Standard II.		Standard III.		Standard IV.		Above Standard IV.
No. Examined.	No. Passed.	No. Examined.	No. Passed.	No. Examined.	No. Passed.	No. Examined.	No. Passed.	
829	664	632	507	448	239	302	188	128

Total number examined - - -	2,211
Total number passed - - -	1,598
Percentage of passes - - -	72

Indian education.

I cannot venture to conclude my present Report without again adverting to the solemn question of education for the offspring of Indian settlers. The fact that tens of thousands of these children (the majority of whom have been born on Mauritian soil) are growing up in the grossest state of ignorance, and that no adequate means have, as yet, been brought into play to meet their moral and intellectual wants, must force itself upon the most casual observer.

It would be by no means easy to say upon whom this responsibility rests.

Government has had to feel its way through much prejudice, and its tentative efforts have been necessarily slow and limited. Planters and proprietors are fully alive to the value of juvenile Indian labour; the parents derive a direct pecuniary advantage from the employ of their children by householders, whilst comparatively few only of the vast immigrant population feel disposed to make any sacrifice where gain is at stake. In 1863 I had the honour of bringing this matter prominently under the notice of Government, which eventuated in the establishment of six additional experimental schools. In 1864, I was enabled to report that the number had been increased to 12, under the Department, and that 11 others had been established under private auspices, assisted by Government grant.

In 1865 there were 10 in receipt of grant, and 21 belonging to Government, thereby giving a totality of 31.

In 1866 the Government Indian schools had increased to 31, making in all 41 establishments. At the close of the year in question, I was sanguine of their continued and increasing success; nor was money now wanting for the further development of the enterprise, as a sum of 1,000*l.* had been specially noted in Council to this end.

The Education Report of 1867 alludes to the sad effects of the fever epidemic; whilst to the hurricane of March, 1868, and other causes, is to be attributed the destruction of no less than 11 Indian vernacular schools.

Let us hope that a brighter future is in store for this once-favoured colony, and that with agricultural, commercial, and sanitary improvement, it will be the aim and endeavour of the Department to keep pace with its educational appliances.

The number of Indian schools, or departments of schools, is at present 17, upon the rolls of which are inscribed 653 pupils, exclusive of those at the Reformatory. With four exceptions these are for the Tamil race. In connection with the matter now under report, I have to place on record the results of an examination held in November last in order to test the qualifications of the Indian schoolmasters with a view to their classification according to proficiency. I was very generously assisted in this duty by the Rev. P. Ansorgé and Rev. F. X. Roy, who examined the Calcutta teachers; and by the Rev. Puccinelli, the Rev. H. D. Buswell, and the Rev. R. J. French, who conducted the Tamil part of the examination. To these gentlemen I beg thus publicly to convey my sincere thanks for the able service which they rendered.

Examination of Indian masters.

The tabulated statement of results is by no means satisfactory, and proved inefficiency in the case of the majority is apparent. With such men little good can be effected, and their inaptitude to some extent tends to explain why Indian pupils, speaking the Colonial *patois*, manifest so decided a preference for the Creole schools, which, with rare exceptions, are conducted by trained and efficient men. I believe I interpret the feelings of the examiners aright when I state that they are unanimous in their verdict that, although the present staff of Indian teachers are the best that the Department can command, the majority would under no circumstances be elected for such important a trust by any of the educational bodies in India.

Opinion of examiners as to present staff of Indian teachers.

The examiners see only one way of meeting the difficulty in default of obtaining qualified teachers from the Presidencies, and that is in the establishment of an Indian Normal School in Port Louis for the exclusive training of Indian teachers. Two of the examiners, who are peculiarly qualified to speak *ex cathedrâ* on educational matters, suggest that the principal of such an institution should be a man whose educational experiences have extended to both England and India.

Remedy suggested.

Training school for Indian teachers.

It was painful to witness the embarrassment of these Indian teachers, most of whom are fortunately only on probationary service, when operations were required from them which any third-grade pupil of a Government school would have readily solved. To augment the present number of Indian schools with no better means at our disposal for their direction than we at present possess, would be, I am now convinced, a waste of the public funds, and a burlesque on school-keeping.

I would wish, in conclusion, to convey my best thanks to the President and Members of the Schools' Committee for their advice and aid; to my assistants in the office; to the Normal master, for

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his able services willingly rendered during the general examinations; to the gentlemen who undertook the task of examination of candidates for the Government scholarships, and to the ladies who adjudged the prizes for needlework.

As regards the general staff of teachers, I am happy in again being able to bear testimony to the patient zeal and assiduity with which most of them have gone through their annual round of arduous and monotonous duty. However admirable the system under which the schools function—however vigilant the supervision exercised; however perfect the appliances brought to bear on the work—it is to the men rather than to the methods that the superintendent looks for that co-operation without which his own best endeavours would inevitably miscarry. * * * * *

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. COMBER BROWNE,
Superintendent of Government Schools.

(No. 28.)

Registry, Supreme Court,
August 22, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose herewith the Return of Civil and Criminal Cases tried before the Supreme Court during the year 1871, and also a Return of Written Orders issued by the Judges in Chambers during the years 1870 and 1871.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) FERD. HERCHEMODER,
Registrar.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

August 22, 1872.

Return of new Civil Cases before the Supreme Court during the year 1871:—

Actions above 100*l.*	367
Actions under 100*l.*	102
Appeals from judgments of magistrates	32
Bankruptcy cases	4
Arrangements under the control of the Court	4
Cessiones bonorum	1
Total	510

Return of Criminal Cases tried in the Supreme Court during the year 1871:—

Cases tried at assizes	64
Appeals from convictions of magistrates	15
Total	79
Number of prisoners tried at assizes	118
Number of prisoners in appeals from convictions	35
Total	153

Number of civil cases - - - - - - -	510
Number of criminal cases - - - - - - -	79
	589

(Signed) FERD. HERCHEMODER,
Registrar,

Chambers, Supreme Court,
August 22, 1872.

Return of the Written Orders made and issued by the Judges in Chambers of the Supreme Court of Mauritius from 1st January to 31st December, 1870, and from 1st January to 31st December, 1871 :—

	Number.
1870 - - - -	2,010
1871 - - - -	1,865

(Signed) JAMES J. BROWN,
Clerk to the Chief Judge.

(No. 164.)

CRIME REPORT, 1871.

The annexed tabular statement will show the number and description of the criminal cases which have been tried before the Court of Assizes in this Colony during the last five years, i. e. from 1867 to 1871 inclusively.

It is unfortunately shown by the annexed Table that there has been during the past year an excess over the two previous years both in the number of cases and accused brought to trial.

No. of Cases and Accused.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.
No. of Cases - -	68	75	49	55	64
No. of Persons - -	133	152	101	85	118

There have, however, been a few cases of a rather peculiar nature, and somewhat out of the ordinary description of cases brought before the assizes, tried during the year, which charges I will again refer to before concluding this Report.

It will be seen that 33 more accused were tried during the year 1871 than during 1870. This may in some measure be accounted for by two or three cases of burglary, in one of which no less than 16 persons were tried for the offence.

The nationality, or race, of the offenders tried during the year is as follows:—

Indians.	Ex-apprentice.	Europeans.	Arabs.
79	34	4	1

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I regret to say that crimes of a serious nature have still been very numerous. No less than 15 accused were tried during the year for murder, or attempt at murder, 8 of whom were convicted, 5 found guilty of manslaughter, or attempt at manslaughter, and 2 acquitted.

As to those convicted of murder, it was considered unnecessary that the extreme penalty of the law should be inflicted in more than three cases; in these cases the three prisoners were accordingly executed: in the others the punishment was commuted to 20 years' imprisonment with hard labour.

Among the cases of murder there was one in which the accused, a poacher, was charged with having shot a gamekeeper in the district of Moka. The evidence seemed fully to bear out the offence as charged; but the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter only, and the prisoner was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment with hard labour.

I regret to state that there were also several other charges of severe assaults brought to trial, many in which death was the result; but there were no peculiar circumstances attending these cases to call for any special remarks from me.

There were no less than 12 cases of arson tried during the year, in which 17 persons were accused: of these 11 were found guilty, 4 acquitted, and as regards 2 the Crown entered a "nolle prosequi."

Though it is a matter of regret that these cases have been so numerous, it is satisfactory to find that the culprits in such crimes have been discovered and brought to justice.

There are few charges more difficult to prove than those of arson, the evidence in general being entirely circumstantial; but from the result of those which have been tried during the past year it would appear that all efforts were made to discover the authors of these offences.

Among the cases of involuntary homicide was one of a railway guard, who was tried for having by negligence in not working a signal caused a collision, which resulted in the death of another guard, besides causing minor injuries to other persons.

There were three cases tried of placing stones on the railway lines, but one of them only was of a serious nature. In this case the stone placed on the rail was of a very considerable size, and the offence was committed by a man of a certain age, and who must have known the gravity of his crime. He was convicted, and sentenced to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, the greatest penalty allowed by law for such offence.

In the other two cases young boys were the culprits, who probably acted more through mischief than with any intention of causing harm. They were both convicted, and sentenced to two years' detention at the Reformatory School.

There was one case of a somewhat peculiar nature, in which many members of the same family stood as accused in the dock. These fancied they had a legal right to a house, which was at the time of the offence inhabited by other people. Acting under that impression, the accused attacked the house in a body, plundered the furniture, and by force expelled the inmates thereof. The prisoners were tried under the Penal Code for plunder of property, and the chief movers

among them were found guilty. Several of the accused, however, being found to be mere children who had acted under the influence of their parents or relatives, were acquitted at the request of the Crown.

There were four cases of rape, one of attempt upon chastity, and one of sodomy brought to trial, in all of which convictions were obtained.

There was one case of swindling, one of false coining, one of purloining articles which had been judicially attached, one of falsifying public documents, in which an usher was convicted of falsifying an inventory he had been ordered to make; one of fraudulent bankruptcy, and one of having made a false declaration of birth, tried during the course of the year.

I can assign no other reason than that above mentioned for the excess in the number of persons tried at the assizes during the year 1871 over that of the two previous years.

This has certainly not been caused by any increase in the population of the Island; on the contrary, we find from the census returns of last year that on the 11th of April, the day on which the census was taken, the population of the Island was 12,591 less than on the 31st December, 1870.

This Report, of course, extends up to the end of December, 1871; but it is not probable that between the months of April and December of that year there was any considerable increase in our population.

On the 31st December, 1870, the population of the Island was 328,633, the Indian population consisting of 140,283 males and 70,353 females. On the 11th of April, 1871, we find the total population to have been 316,042, consisting of 216,258 Indians, the general population being 99,784.

I am glad to notice from the Census Return of last year, which is no doubt a more correct criterion of the real population than the returns annually made, that there has been of late a considerable increase in the female population of the Island, and that almost entirely among the Indian classes.

In the year 1861, the Indian male population was 141,615, and the female 51,019; but in 1871 we find that while the male population among the Indians was 141,804, the female was 74,454.

I cannot help thinking that this increase of the Indian female population will serve to diminish crime, at least so far as injuries towards the person are concerned.

In examining the cases of severe assault, whether resulting in death or otherwise, which have been tried during the past year, I find that no less than ten of them arose from quarrels with or in reference to women, jealousy generally being the cause of the crimes committed.

I have, therefore, every hope that as the Indian female population continues to increase, so will crimes of this nature yearly become less frequent.

I have already mentione 1 that there were two or three cases of young robbers tried during 871, in which a considerable number of accused were charged, but there is no reason to suppose any steady increase in this species of off ence.

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I have mentioned such among the other cases tried as I thought from their somewhat uncommon nature deserving of special notice; as to the rest they have been of the usual description, and such as to require no particular remarks from me.

(Signed) A. G. ELLIS,
Acting Procureur and Advocate-General.

May 23, 1872.

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COPY of a DESPATCH from Civil Commissioner FRANKLYN to Governor The Honourable Sir ARTHUR GORDON, K.C.M.G.

Government House, Seychelles,
February 9, 1872.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the annual returns for the Blue Book; the greatest care has been taken to render them as correct as possible, as requested by your Excellency in Colonial Secretary's letter No. *a.* 2036 of 7th December 1871, "to Heads of Departments."

Much difficulty has been experienced in obtaining reliable information from the proprietors of the different estates, from the great unwillingness, amounting almost to opposition, in many cases to assist, or even answer the questions of the persons sent round to obtain it. However, by a persevering personal inspection, the required information has been obtained, and I venture to think that your Excellency may rely on it as tolerably correct, and certainly rather under than over the truth.

Your Excellency will be gratified, I am sure, to learn that my expectations of the increasing prosperity of this dependency, as stated in my letter No. 62, forwarding Blue Book Returns for 1870, have been more than realized; and the activity displayed by many of the proprietors, particularly those from Mauritius, who have recently purchased estates, justifies me in expecting a still more rapid progress. These proprietors are busily engaged in laying out fresh plantations of cocoanuts, and in planting coffee, tobacco, cocoa, and sugar-canes; but I venture most respectfully to suggest that a fairly calculated land-tax, *double* on uncultivated ground, would give a still further impetus to industry, and cause the owners (in many cases absentees) of large tracts of waste lands (who will neither sell nor improve) to take a different course.

Exports and Imports.

The export of our staple article, cocoanut oil, has steadily increased, having amounted during the past year to 253,070 gallons, against 189,820 gallons during the previous year.

There has also been a considerable increase in the exports of Indian corn, tortoise-shell, and some other articles.

	£	s.	d.
The total value of the exports for 1871 amounts to	40,598	15	8
Against previous year	31,233	4	6
Showing an increase of	£9,365	11	2

	£	s.	d.
The value of the imports for 1871 is	61,780	13	1
Against for the year previous	46,276	2	2
Showing an increase of	£15,504	10	11

The imports of foreign goods would have reached a much larger figure but for the loss of a vessel direct from France, with a cargo of an estimated value of from 10,000*l.* to 12,000*l.* This has been replaced by the arrival of another vessel last month.

The import trade direct from Europe is assuming considerable proportions, and the time is, I think, not far distant when these islands will draw their supplies principally from thence and from India, Madagascar, and the coast of Africa.

Revenue and Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
The detailed revenue amounts to	6,453	13	6
Against for the previous year	5,868	8	5¾
Showing an increase of	£585	5	0¼

	£	s.	d.
The estimated duties received in Mauritius on goods consumed in Seychelles amount to	3,333	6	0
Which added to detailed revenue	6,453	13	6
Makes a total revenue for 1871 of	9,786	19	6
Against the previous year	8,081	18	7¾
Showing an increase of	£1,705	0	10¼

The actual collections at Mahé on account of revenue have been reduced during the past year by the duties on rum distilled at Seychelles having fallen off, in consequence of the large importation of rum from Mauritius.

I confidently expect that the estimated revenue for the present year will be much increased by the extension of the ordinances authorizing the levying of quay dues, and by the amount of Custom duties on goods direct from foreign ports, as during the past month more than the whole amount calculated in the estimates for the present year has been received of the latter, and more than one-third of the former.

	£	s.	d.
The expenditure at Seychelles for 1871 is	8,034	19	5½
Against the previous year	6,869	14	3
Showing an increase of	£1,165	5	2½

This is owing to a still further enlargement of the Police Force, the keep of a much greater number of prisoners, money expended on

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building a new Custom-house and rum store, the extensive works performed by the Road Department, and a pension granted to an old retiring police constable.

Recapitulation.

	£	s.	d.
Total revenue - - - - -	9,786	19	6
Expenditure - - - - - -	8,034	19	5½
Balance in favour of revenue -	£1,752	0	0½

The settlement of "the much-vexed question," as to whether the Seychelles group is a burden to the parent Colony or not, is now happily solved by the duties collected in Mauritius on goods consumed in Seychelles, being carried to the credit of the revenue of the dependency, and the inhabitants owe a debt of lasting gratitude to your Excellency for having carried out the measure, and I really believe that the knowledge of their being in a state of independence, financially speaking, will act as a powerful stimulant to further exertion on their part.

Public Works.

During the past year, 1,089 feet have been added to the length of the pier, reported in course of construction in my Blue Book Returns for 1870; more would have been completed, but it requires to be built much higher than before. The total length is now 1,889 feet, containing 272,305 cubic feet of granite and coral; the former having been blasted with gunpowder on the outskirts of the town, and the latter collected in the harbour; both materials being conveyed in trucks and barges to their destination, involving a large amount of manual labour.

The kind assistance I have received from your Excellency in having had an iron tramway of upwards of 1,500 feet in length forwarded to me in August last, has most materially facilitated the performance of this difficult work.

This tramway has been continued from time to time with the hard wood of the country, to keep pace with the progress of the pier, so that the materials required can be transported in the trucks to that part of the pier in course of construction; angle iron can be placed on the woodwork at a future period.

This pier has already come into general public use for the landing and shipping cargoes; the old chantier pier being only used by a few persons living in its vicinity, and not even by them when the goods landed are intended to be sent to the Custom-house. I hope by the middle of the present year that the pier will be completed up to the edge of the reef bounding the inner harbour, when vessels of the largest tonnage may load and discharge cargo, and take in water led in iron pipes from the river above the town.

The old pier has been also several times repaired temporarily, and it is my intention, with your Excellency's permission, to put it in a state of permanent repair when some of the other works in progress are completed, as it is opposite to the large premises occupied by the agent for the M. M. mail steamers, who is also the largest direct importer in the dependency.

The walls of the Custom-house have been nearly completed, and made ready to receive the roof. This work also will be finished, I think, about Midsummer next.

About 8 or 9 miles of the north and south roads, the bridges and the streets of the town have been kept in repair, and two new bridges built.

2,576 feet of a new road across the mountain from about a mile and a half from the town, on the south road, towards the west side of the Island, have been completed up to the end of the year. This road is solidly built, and will be available for horse travel, having an easy grade or rise, and can be converted into a carriage road when required by adding to its width.

The work has hitherto been one of much difficulty from the steep and rocky nature of the ground; but after passing over the mountain the progress will be more rapid. From the ground being tolerably level on the other side, it will be comparatively easy to continue the road to the south end of the island, passing a number of valuable estates.

In addition to the previously-mentioned road, I contemplate commencing another across the mountain, which will connect those plantations on the north-west side of the Island.

Harbour.

Through the kind assistance of Admiral Cockburn, the Commander-in-Chief on the East India station, I have been enabled to remove a dangerous shoal situated in the best anchorage in the inner harbour. H.M. ships and other large vessels can now safely ride in 30 feet of water on the spot where it existed, and where there was previously only 12 or 14.

The buoys and beacons have from time to time been replaced by others, repainted and repaired. Heavy moorings have been prepared to be laid down in the outer roads for the convenience of the mail steamers and other vessels.

Anchors of large size have been forwarded by Admiral Cockburn from Trincomalee, and I only await the arrival of suitable chains to lay down moorings in the inner harbour for the flag-ship and others of H.M. ships on the station.

Shipping.

84 merchant vessels have entered and cleared at the Custom-house, which, with 22 mail steamers and 18 men-of-war that have visited the port during the past year, make an aggregate of 43,619 tons.

Several other vessels have been added to the number that trade to Mauritius, Madagascar, and other adjacent ports. There is, however, a great need for a small steamer to ply regularly between Port Victoria and the other islands with goods and passengers, as at present the latter are principally carried in open boats.

Lighthouses

Are urgently required now that Port Victoria is so frequently visited by H.M. ships, by the mail steamers, and other vessels.

The currents in the neighbourhood of "Bird" Island, in the direct track of vessels coming from the northward, are very irregular, uncertain

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in course, and run with the greatest rapidity, as much as from 5 to 6 miles an hour, rendering the approach of vessels by night dangerous in the extreme. Several whalers have been lost on the coral reef, which extends a great distance all round the island on which they struck on moderately fine nights, without seeing the land, which is very low. One of H.M. ships passed 30 miles out of the course intended, and on the wrong side of the island, although a large allowance was made for the set of the current.

I respectfully suggest that a light should be placed on the above-mentioned island, and a harbour light on Isle "St. Anne," at the entrance of the outer road of Port Victoria.

I have heard on all sides that the dues required to support these lights would be most cheerfully paid.

Improvements.

26 new houses have been built in the town during the past year, many of them in a solid manner, others are in progress of erection, and walls fixing the boundaries of the owners.

Near the chantier pier, a large and valuable granite building has been erected 110 feet long, containing commodious warehouses below, and a spacious suite of apartments above, the whole being rented by the French Consular agent.

Crime.

I regret that I cannot give so favourable a report on this subject as in my last.

The number of prisoners has been great, and crimes of a much more serious nature perpetrated than hitherto known; burglaries have been of frequent occurrence both in town and country, plantations plundered, and various other minor crimes committed, rendering a still further increase of the Police Force necessary.

Many of the liberated Africans, after their first engagement has expired, refuse to re-engage, and require the surveillance of the Police to prevent them from spreading over the country districts and becoming vagrants and thieves.

Health.

The health of the inhabitants generally has been good, excepting at the close of the year, when bowel complaints prevailed, as is usual at the commencement of the rainy season; there were, however, I am informed, very few fatal cases.

The registry of births shows 496, but, of course, many more may be calculated in a population scattered over these islands, of which no account has been given.

The deaths have amounted to 209, which rate contrasts favourably with former years, considering the increased population, which, according to the census taken last year, was 11,125.

To this may be added between 1,500 and 2,000 persons who escaped being registered from the unwillingness of the people to give the required information to the official enumerators.

I am confident that the mortality will decrease in the outlying islands considerably if an Assistant Government Medical Officer is

appointed to reside at "Praslin" or "La Digue," as contemplated by your Excellency.

He can also take the place of the present Government Medical Officer here temporarily should that gentleman be incapacitated by sickness from performing his duties, or be unavoidably absent; such an event happening under the present circumstance, in case of an outbreak of cholera or fever, might entail the most frightful consequences.

While on this subject, I would respectfully beg to bring before the serious consideration of your Excellency the urgent necessity for the acquisition of a suitable plot of ground by the Government for a public cemetery, the one now in use being crowded to excess, so that frequently, on fresh interments being made, the remains of human mortality are disturbed, and in many instances removed to a place provided for their reception.

The cemetery adjoins the wall of the Government domain, and is not more than 100 yards from the House, situated on the side of a hill sloping towards the river which supplies the town with water.

Schools.

There is at Victoria a most excellent boys' school, called the "College Notre Dame du Sacré Cœur," conducted by a Principal and four Roman Catholic Brothers of the "Doctrine Chretienne," where a good commercial education is obtained; there are at present 101 youths, 45 of the number being educated gratuitously.

There is also a female school, conducted by the Sœur St. Aubin and six other sisters of the order of "St. Joseph."

In this school are 246 children, of which number 216 are educated gratuitously, 70 of whom are also fed and clothed at the expense of the mission.

I consider this, as well as the other establishment, well deserving the support of the Government.

Besides the above mentioned, there is a school at Victoria under the management of the Civil Chaplain, conducted by two teachers; in which 54 male and 65 female children are educated gratuitously.

I may remark that this is a wooden building in a most dilapidated condition.

There is also a free school under the Civil Chaplain's management, on the other side of the island, in which there are 27 male and 27 female children; and one at Praslin, with 9 male and 7 female children.

Distilleries.

I regret that my report upon the produce of the distilleries will not be as favourable as the last, only the one at "Frigate" Island having been in operation during the past year.

The number of gallons of rum distilled amounts to 5,112¼ gallons, against 6,385 gallons for the previous year.

	£	s.	d.
The amount of duties paid at Seychelles the year previous was - - - - - - - -	1,860	10	2¾
Against for the year 1871 - - - - -	1,006	13	11
Showing a decrease of - - - - -	£853	16	3¾

SEYCHELLES.

The cause of this falling is, in my opinion, the great difference in the cost of the rum manufactured at Mauritius and at Seychelles the former being made from the refuse of the sugar, the latter from the juice of the cane itself.

Previous to the year 1871, the duty on the rum manufactured at Seychelles was 1*s.* per gallon less than at present, which enabled the distillers here to compete with those at Mauritius. The loss, however, to the Seychelles revenue is inconsiderable, as the duty paid at Mauritius on the rum consumed at Seychelles, I presume, goes to the credit of the revenue of the dependency, as is the case with the custom duties; but the closing of the distilleries is a blow to that branch of local industry.

The proprietor of "Ma Constance" Distillery is breaking up his establishment and selling his canes.

Charitable Institutions.

The contemplated alterations to the building occasionally used as an hospital, and the establishment being placed on a proper footing, will be a great boon, not only to the inhabitants and visitors, but to the seamen of H.M. ships, and other vessels coming to the port.

A well devised Poor Relief Law is also most urgently required, as at present the helpless and aged poor depend entirely upon private charity.

Curieuse.

The abolition, as contemplated by your Excellency, of the establishment of that island, and an asylum being fixed elsewhere nearer to Port Victoria, will materially diminish the expenditure, and be a great advantage to the dependency.

Liberated Africans.

206 liberated Africans were landed in the month of October, 1871, from H.M.S. 'Columbine,' and since the commencement of the present year 206 captured by the same vessel.

The result of their allotment as labourers to the different proprietors is being already advantageously felt.

These labourers, from my personal observation, are as comfortably lodged (considering the climate) and as well fed as the greater proportion of the agricultural labourers in European countries.

The continuance of this supply of labour, with the liberal measures already introduced and contemplated by your Excellency, will be the means doubtless of bringing the whole of these beautiful islands under cultivation wherever the soil is suitable, and consequently to a state of a prosperity never expected in former days.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. Arthur Gordon, &c. &c. &c. (Signed) W. H. FRANKLYN, Civil Commissioner.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir H. ST. GEORGE ORD, C.B., to the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Singapore,
July 22, 1872.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of the Straits Settlements for 1871. I also forward the copy of a Report by Mr. Arthur Birch, Acting Lieutenant-Governor, Penang, on the Blue Book for that Settlement, and of one by Lieutenant-Governor Shaw, on the Blue Book for Malacca.

2. I regret to say that I have not yet received a copy of the Blue Book of the Settlements for the year 1870. In reporting on the present Blue Book, I have therefore been obliged to make a comparison between its results and those of the year 1869.

Taxes and Fees.

3. There has been no alteration in the taxes and fees levied in the Colony.

Assets and Liabilities.

4. The balance to the credit of the Colony was, on the 1st of January, 1870, $160,020; it is, on the 1st January, 1872, $442,092, showing a gain of $282,000 in two years, notwithstanding a liberal expenditure for public works and improvements, and considerable increase in the extent and cost of the Government establishments. It is right to add that with the exception of the building of the Government House, no public work of any magnitude has been undertaken since the transfer, and that it is intended to appropriate at once a great part of the present balance to public works of utility at the three Settlements.

£	s.	d.
34,004	5	0
93,944	11	0
59,925	0	0

Revenue and Expenditure.

5. *Revenue.*

The revenue for the two years in question was—

	$			
1869 - - - - - - - -	1,313,046	279,022	5	6
1871 - - - - - - - -	1,405,703	298,711	17	9
Balance in favour of 1871 -	$92,657	19,689	12	3

6. The principal part of this balance is obtained by

	$			
Additional revenue on land - - -	56,128	11,927	4	0
„ „ on postage - - -	25,232	5,361	16	0
„ „ on reimbursements -	10,188	2,164	19	0
By sale of Government property - - -	37,197	7,904	7	3

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

£	s.	d.	
7,363	6	9	From this has, however, to be deducted the loss by diminished receipts on account of convict reimbursements, $34,651. As, however, the falling off of the receipts on this account is accompanied by a proportionate decrease in the cost incurred for the convicts, it may be left out of the account; and setting aside as an exceptional payment the
7,862	10	0	$37,000 received by the sale of Government steamers, there is left a
19,125	0	0	balance of about $90,000 to represent the actual increase in the revenue of 1871 over that of 1869.

Expenditure.

247,425	4	6	7. The expenditure was for 1869, $1,164,354; for 1871, $1,254,111;
266,495	11	9	
19,073	7	3	excess in 1871, $89,757. The principal part of this excess is on the following items:—

				$
3,347	14	6	Establishments	15,754
1,045	1	6	Education	4,918
2,873	12	9	Police	13,523
1,741	8	9	Gaols	8,195
1,332	3	3	Government vessels	6,269
8,988	10	9	Conveyance of mails	42,299
4,117	12	3	Roads	19,377
4,153	14	9	Miscellaneous	19,547
3,820	19	3	Special expenses	17,981

On the other hand, there have been savings on

				$
4,195	12	0	Cost of convicts	19,744
637	10	0	Rent of a Government House	3,000
1,782	17	6	Interest	8,390
6,163	7	0	Public works	29,004

8. The noticeable feature in the foregoing statement is the very large increase in the land revenue, which was estimated at $62,000, and realized $108,000. This is partly due to an increased demand, caused by the general prosperity of the Settlements, and also by a large influx of agricultural population, but it is also in some measure due to the greater care which is exercised in disposing of public lands. Formerly it was thought of the first importance to encourage immigration by granting land liberally to all persons asking for it. In this way, large tracts in the neighbourhood of the town of Singapore were parted with at 12*s.* an acre, which are now worth 100*l.* an acre. Squatting was also encouraged, and persons became possessed of valuable land without giving much consideration for it, or occupied large tracts with cultivation of the most exhaustive kind, which they abandoned afterwards without the Government obtaining anything like a proper return for its use. By the regulations now in force, a stop has to a great extent been put to these irregularities. Squatting is not encouraged, and where practicable, land is not sold in fee simple, but is put up to auction on a perpetual lease to the highest bidder, subject to the payment of a small ground rent; the result has been to increase the revenue derived from land sales without in any way diminishing the demand for land

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

9. The postal revenue, estimated at $73,000, reached $89,000, an increase of $16,000; but there was a corresponding increase in the cost of postal conveyance, which was $54,000 in place of $46,000.

10. As the revenue furnished by the Post Office after payment of all expenses amounts to upwards of $20,000 a year, I think the time has arrived when the rates of postage should be revised, with the view to their reduction and greater facilities being afforded to the public in the transmission of their correspondence.

11. The following is the estimated and actual revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the year:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
Estimated - -	1,365,592 [1]	1,376,006 [2]
Actual - - -	1,405,703 [3]	1,254,111 [4]
Difference, more -	$40,111 [5]	Less $121,895 [6]

	£	s.	d.
[1]	290,188	6	0
[2]	292,401	5	6
[3]	298,711	17	9
[4]	266,498	11	9
[5]	8,523	11	9
[6]	25,902	13	9

12. Thus, whilst the revenue exceeded the estimate by $40,111, the expenditure was less than had been estimated by $121,895, and the balance of actual revenue over expenditure was $151,592.

	8,523	11	9
	25,902	13	9
	32,213	6	0

Local Revenue and Expenditure.

13. The only local revenues in the Colony are those raised by the municipalities of the three towns by a tax on horses, carriages, houses, and land, with certain receipts from fees paid in the local courts. The money so raised is expended in the conservancy of the towns and the upkeep of roads.

14. The following shows the amounts raised and expended in the two years under comparison:—

SINGAPORE.

	1869.	1871.
	$	$
Revenue - - - -	132,599 [7]	136,323 [8]
Expenditure - - -	153,889 [9]	137,029 [10]
Excess of expenditure over revenue - -	$21,290 [11]	* $706 [12]

[7]	28,177	5	9
[8]	28,968	12	9
[9]	32,701	8	3
[10]	29,118	13	3
[11]	4,524	2	6
[12]	250	0	6

PENANG.

	1869.	1871.
	$	$
Revenue - - - -	78,652 [13]	86,155 [14]
Expenditure - - - -	76,798 [15]	81,765 [16]
Excess of revenue over expenditure - -	† $1,854 [17]	$4,390 [18]

[13]	16,713	11	0
[14]	18,307	18	9
[15]	16,319	11	6
[16]	17,375	1	3
[17]	393	19	6
[18]	932	17	6

* This was met by drawing on the Reserve Fund.

† This balance was repaid to bank for advances during 1868.

Straits Settlements. £ s. d.	Malacca.	1869. $	1871. $
[1] 4,094 9 0	Revenue	19,268 [1]	18,816 [2]
[2] 3,998 8 0	Expenditure	15,019 [3]	18,542 [4]
[3] 3,191 10 9			
[4] 3,940 3 6			
[5] 902 18 3	Excess of revenue over expenditure	$4,249 [5]	$274 [6]
[6] 58 4 6			

Public Works.

15. The completion of the new Government House in 1869 accounts for a considerable decrease in the expenditure for public works in 1871, and the diminution in the number of transmarine convicts tended to reduce the expenditure for tools and plants, &c. The building of two sea walls in the town, and a new road and
3,825 0 0 police station in the country, costing $18,000, were the principal
2,045 0 0 items of expenditure; but the whole outlay was $9,627 less than in 1869.

16. At Penang there was a considerable expenditure on police stations in the town, and on the roads and bridges in Province Wellesley, involving an excess over the outlay for 1869 of nearly $30,256.

2,047 1 6 17. At Malacca the expenditure, which was in 1869, $16,767, was
3,450 3 0 in 1871, $18,353.

Legislation.

18. The principal Ordinances passed during the year, and which have received confirmation, were :—

An Ordinance for regulating the Pensions of Officers in the the Public Service.

An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Police Force.

An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Pawnbrokers.

An Ordinance to apply revenue for the erection of a Lighthouse on the North Sands.

An Ordinance for granting exclusive privileges to Inventors.

Pensions.

19. The pension list has been considerably augmented by the retirement of several public officers—Sir Benson Maxwell, the Chief Justice, Mr. Dunman, the Chief Commissioner of Police, Mr. Quinton, Surveyor-General, and the two head clerks in the Colonial Secretary's
1,593 15 0 office, retired on pensions amounting in the whole to $7,500.

Population.

20. For the first time in the history of the Settlements, an attempt has been made to obtain an accurate account of the population. The census was taken at the usual decennial period, the 2nd of April, 1871, and I agree with the census officers in thinking that, although complete accuracy need not be claimed for the returns, they approximate very nearly to the truth.

21. The most numerous race is the Malay, of whom there are 147,188 in the Colony distributed; in Singapore, 19,250; in Penang and Province Wellesley, 70,464; in Malacca, 57,474. Next to them come the Chinese, 103,936 strong, of whom 54,572 are in Singapore, 36,561 in Penang, and 30,456 in Malacca.

22. There are 18,994 Klings, of whom 9,297, or nearly one-half, are in Singapore, 6,823 in Penang, and 2,874 in Malacca.

23. Out of a total of 308,097, there are but 1,730 Europeans and Americans.

24. The Hindoos number 9,166, Eurasians 5,772, and the Javanese 4,665; the rest is made up of some 21 different nationalities, principally of Eastern origin.

25. The proportion of females to males is pretty fairly observed, except in the case of the Chinese, who have 17,287 to 86,649, or about 1 to 5; some of the natives of India, Bengalese, Hindoos, and Klings, as well as the Javanese and Boyanese, who come here for a time without their families, also naturally show a large proportion of males.

Imports and Exports.

26. The imports and exports of the three Settlements, as compared with those of 1869, are as follows:—

IMPORTS.

	1869.	1871.		£	s.	d.
	$	$				
Singapore - -	31,961,941 [1]	36,766,530 [2]	[1]	6,791,912	9	3
Penang - - -	9,472,240 [3]	16,881,537 [4]	[2]	7,812,887	12	6
Malacca - -	2,552,041 [5]	2,368,594 [6]	[3]	2,012,851	0	0
			[4]	3,587,326	12	3
			[5]	542,308	14	3
	$43,986,222 [7]	56,016,661 [8]	[6]	503,326	4	6
		43,986,222	[7]	11,903,540	9	3
			[8]	9,347,072	3	6
		$12,030,439 [9]	[9]	2,556,468	5	9

	Increase, 1871.	Decrease, 1871.				
	$	$				
Singapore - - -	4,804,589 [10]	—	[10]	1,020,975	3	3
Penang - - - -	7,409,297 [11]	—	[11]	1,574,475	12	3
Malacca - - -	—	183,447 [12]	[12]	38,982	9	9
	$12,213,886 [13]	183,447	[13]	2,595,450	15	6

EXPORTS.

	1869.	1871.				
	$	$				
Singapore - -	26,982,200 [14]	32,003,807 [15]	[14]	5,733,717	10	0
Penang - - -	11,372,923 [16]	17,327,482 [17]	[15]	6,800,808	19	9
Malacca - -	2,228,199 [18]	2,477,312 [19]	[16]	2,416,746	2	9
			[17]	3,682,089	18	6
			[18]	473,492	5	9
	$40,583,322 [20]	51,808,601	[19]	526,428	16	0
		40,583,322	[20]	8,623,955	18	6
		$11,225,279 [21]	[21]	2,385,371	15	

Straits Settlements. £	s.	d.		Increase, 1871. $
1,067,091	9	9	Singapore - - -	5,021,607
1,265,343	15	9	Penang - - - -	5,954,559
52,936	10	3	Malacca - - - -	249,113
2,385,371	15	9	Total - - -	$11,225,279

27. In imports, the increase in Singapore during the two years is about 15 per cent.; in Penang it is nearly 80 per cent., whilst in Malacca there is a decrease of about 7 per cent. In exports, the increase at Singapore is about 18 per cent., at Penang upwards of 52 per cent., and at Malacca about 11 per cent. Against the slight decrease in imports at Malacca may be fairly set off the considerable addition which has taken place in its exports, and the return as a whole represents the trade of the Colony in a flourishing condition.

28. These figures furnish additional confirmation of the opinion expressed in my Report on the Blue Book for 1868 that the trade of Penang would continue to develop itself (as it had for years past) in a larger proportion than that of Singapore. In 1861, the imports and exports of Singapore were to those of Penang as 10 to 3; in 1871, they are as 10 to 5.

29. The items of imports on which there have been the greatest increase are at

	Singapore. $	Penang. $
Opium, about - - -	1,661,000 [1]	466,000 [2]
Tin - - - - -	1,414,000 [3]	1,209,000 [4]
Pepper - - - -	850,000 [5]	1,395,000 [6]
Rice and paddy - - -	508,000 [7]	1,190,000 [8]
Gambier - - - -	349,000 [9]	—
Gutta-percha - - -	300,000 [10]	39,000 [11]
Specie - - - -	—	1,797,000 [12]
Cotton and cotton goods -	—	346,000 [13]
Silk and silk goods - -	344,000 [14]	117,000 [15]
Cocoa-nuts - - - -	121,000 [16]	25,000 [17]
Precious stones - -	178,000 [18]	—

In exports the principal increase has been in—

	Singapore. $	Penang. $
Rice - - - -	249,000 [19]	553,000 [20]
Cotton goods - - -	964,000 [21]	149,000 [22]
Gambier - - -	174,000 [23]	—
Gutta-percha - - -	328,000 [24]	61,000 [25]
Opium - - - -	964,000 [26]	70,000 [27]
Sago flour - - - -	137,000 [28]	—
Specie - - - -	—	1,682,000 [29]
Silks - - - - -	77,000 [30]	115,000 [31]
Spices and nutmegs - -	154,000 [32]	237,000 [33]
Pepper - - - -	1,001,000 [34]	1,801,000 [35]
Sugar - - - -	124,000 [36]	37,000 [37]
Tin - - - - -	1,163,000 [38]	1,369,000 [39]
Cocoa-nut oil - - -	34,000 [40]	75,000 [41]

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

£	s.	d.
17,212	10	0
24,225	0	0
2,125	0	0

At Malacca the only increase of any amount has been in rice, $81,000, and opium (which, however, was a re-export), $114,000. Sugar to the value of $10,000 was also made in the country and exported.

Shipping.

30. The following Table shows the number of ships, British and foreign, with their tonnage, which entered and cleared from the Colony in the two years under comparison :—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
1869 - - - -	2,520	977,152	2,447	934,660
1871 - - - -	2,890	1,301,752	2,995	1,144,074
Increase in 1871 -	370	324,600	548	209,414

31. An addition within two years of one-seventh in the number, and of one-third in the gross tonnage, of ships entering the ports of the Settlements, is satisfactory evidence of its rapidly increasing commercial prosperity.

32. It is right to add that the increase which has taken place has been exclusively in British ships, of which 431 more have entered than in 1869.

Lighthouses.

33. In 1871 a contract was made for the erection of another lighthouse, to be placed on the North Sands, and to take the place of the "Torch" light vessel, which has for 20 years marked the site of this danger. The completion of this work will render the waters of the Colony, notwithstanding the numerous dangers they contain, navigable with perfect safety.

Agriculture.

34. I regret that the small and imperfectly-organized survey establishment which we have hitherto possessed has prevented my obtaining accurate returns of the extent of land in cultivation, and the particulars of its cultivation. The additions which have been recently made to the establishment will, I trust, enable me to supply this deficiency another year.

Gaols and Prisons.—Charitable Institutions.

35. The condition of these establishments has formed the subject of correspondence for some time past. Up to the end of last year attention had been almost exclusively directed to obtaining accurate information of their state, and considering the arrangements which should be made for its improvement. I am happy to say that measures, based on the results of these inquiries, which will, I trust, have the effect of removing all cause of complaint against them, are about to be submitted to the Legislature.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) HARRY ST. GEORGE ORD.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

REPORT of ACTING LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR A. N. BIRCH on the BLUE BOOK of the SETTLEMENT of PENANG, in the COLONY of the STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, for the year 1871.

Lieutenant-Governor's Office, Penang,
March 1, 1872.

SIR,

In transmitting to you the annual Blue Book of Penang and Province Wellesley for the year 1871, I have the honour to submit the following Report:—

Revenue.

The revenue of last year amounted to $366,372, being nearly $5,000 less than that of 1870, while it exceeds the estimated revenue by $12,000. The reduction in comparison with the revenue of 1870 is far more than accounted for by the alteration in the Bankruptcy Law, and other reductions in the judicial fees, amounting to some $6,000, also by an error on the part of the Public Works Department of $14,000 in the calculation of the reimbursements from India on account of the Indian convicts stationed in this Settlement.

The land revenues have largely increased during the past year, and are capable of still further development under a properly-organized system for collecting the quit rents which have been allowed to fall into arrear.

The revenue derived from opium and spirit licences has undergone no alteration, owing to the arrangement entered into by Colonel Anson, by which the revenues have been farmed out for a period of four years. It is a matter of regret that this arrangement was sanctioned. At the time these farms were let on these terms, the stringent provisions of the recently enacted Excise Act were not understood by the Chinese, and the Settlement had not recovered from the depression caused by the Chinese riots of 1867. Chinese capitalists were not, therefore, prepared to undertake for so long a period the pecuniary responsibility which the farm thus entailed. The increasing prosperity of Penang during the past year has given confidence, and the value of these farms has increased to so great an extent that I have already received an offer from a responsible Chinese merchant for the opium farm alone of $30,000 in excess of the present rental.

There is an apparent decrease of $25,000 under the head of stamps; $6,000 is caused by the reduction in the judicial fees, to which I have already referred, but the chief reduction is accounted for by an alteration in the system of accounts requiring that all revenue received for land sales shall be placed under a separate heading, instead of being included as heretofore in the stamp account.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of the year was $261,199, showing an increase on the previous year of $8,668.

This increase is made up of the following items: an additional $5,000 expended on roads and public works, $4,820 paid to the Acting Chief Justice, Straits Settlements, which salary is properly a charge on the Singapore Treasury; a special sum of $2,000 for coaling Government steamers in connection with the Salengore expedition; $1,550 for taking the census in April last; and also an unforeseen expenditure of $1,800 incurred in the reception of the King of Siam.

A sum of $80,000 was remitted to Singapore during the year for investment, while the balance to the credit of the Government in the account with the Mercantile Bank amounted at the end of the year to $81,914.

Municipal.

No alteration has been made in the municipal system since the transfer of this Settlement from India to the Colonial Office. The Lieutenant-Governor is still ex-officio President of the Municipal Council, and the proceedings of the Commissioners are regulated by the Indian Acts, XXV. and XXVI. of 1856.

The revenue is derived from a house assessment of 10 per cent. and 5 per cent. assessment on all lands throughout the Settlement; a tax on all vehicles and horses; the majority of the fines and fees from the Police Magistrates' Courts; and a special water rate.

The municipal revenue from these sources amounted in 1871 to $86,155·40, and the expenditure to $81,765·10. In this expenditure is included a sum of $40,160 paid annually to Government as the municipal contribution towards the police establishment.

Until 1860 the entire roads, streets, and bridges throughout the Settlements were under the charge of the Municipal Commissioners, but in that year the charge and maintenance of the roads in Province Wellesley was taken over by Government, leaving the municipality to undertake the upkeep of the roads, streets, and bridges throughout the Island of Penang, and also the repairs of the several ferries crossing the rivers in Province Wellesley.

The municipal debt amounts to $43,500; of this sum $33,000 was raised for the special purpose of bringing a supply of water into George Town, and for the payment of which a water rate has been levied. The other portion of the debt was incurred some years since in the erection of a public market and other works.

The municipal revenue having largely increased, with every prospect of further increase from the re-assessment of lands in Province Wellesley, which is now being carried out by a newly-appointed officer, and also from the great increase in the value of house property in Penang, the Commissioners have determined to introduce gas into the Island, and have accepted the terms offered by the Singapore Gas Company to undertake this work, which is expected to be completed during the present year.

Public Works.

No public works of any great importance were undertaken during 1871. Several new police stations were erected in the Island, as also in Province Wellesley, and a sum of $34,500 was expended on metalling and improving the roads in Province Wellesley, which are now in a very satisfactory condition throughout the southern districts of the Province. It is proposed during the present year to commence the reconstruction of the main roads in the northern districts, which require to be metalled throughout.

The necessity for improved wharf accommodation has been much felt, owing to the increasing trade, and the preliminary arrangements were entered into early in the year for carrying on the works by private enterprise, but some delay has occurred in obtaining the sanction of the general Government to the undertaking.

Civil Establishments.

There were no important alterations in the civil establishments during the year beyond the amalgamation of the land offices of Penang and Province Wellesley into one department, immediately under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor. This, together with some minor changes, caused a reduction in the expenditure for the civil establishments, but the introduction of the new Police Act and the proposed reorganization of the police force will cause an increase of expenditure during the present year.

Population.

The census of the population procured in April was the first ever taken in this Settlement, and I am therefore unable to give any comparative statement, but from the returns sent in by the police under the old Indian system it would appear that the number of the Chinese and natives of the Coromandel coast has largely increased, while the Malay population has remained nearly stationary.

The census returns give a population of 61,829 to Penang and 71,401 to Province Wellesley. It is divided as follows:—

	Penang.	Province Wellesley.
Europeans, or of European descent	1,650	198
Malays - - - - - -	20,416	50,117
Chinese - - - - -	24,055	12,506
Klings or natives of India - -	11,266	7,416
Other nationalities - - -	4,442	1,164
Total -	61,829	71,401
	133,230	

I am of opinion that the number of Chinese represented in the returns is far below the actual Chinese population. There was a great unwillingness on the part of the Chinese to fill up the returns, or to give the census officers any information, owing to a belief that the statistics must be required for the purpose of some increase of taxation. I consider, therefore, that the Chinese population is, at a fair computation, 20 per cent. in excess of the numbers given in the returns.

Immigration.

The want of immigration from India has been much felt by the planters in Province Wellesley. During the time that these Settlements were under the Indian Government no restrictions were placed on emigration from the Madras coast, and the labour market was well supplied. Shortly after the transfer objections were raised in India to this unrestricted emigration, and it was at once forbidden without further inquiry, leaving this Settlement in a worse position than any other sugar-producing colony in regard to its labour supply. Had a full inquiry taken place, I am of opinion that the Indian Government would have found nc just ground for entailing so sudden and great an injury in the agricultural interests of this Settlement, without attempting in the first instance to establish some code of regulations for carrying on, under proper surveillance, this immigration, which has hitherto

proved a benefit to all concerned. If some satisfactory arrangements are not shortly made for renewing the emigration of the Kling Coolies from the Coromandel coast, a large amount of land now under cultivation must, it is feared, be abandoned, as the Chinese Coolie is not equal to the Indian Coolie for plantation work, although they are very useful when working together in the same plantations.

The number of Chinese Coolies arriving at this port is daily increasing, and is likely to continue to do so, as it has become the depôt for obtaining Coolies to work the tin mines in the neighbouring States of Larote and Salengore, as also Junk Ceylon, and other Siamese territories to the northward, as well as the recently-established tobacco plantations at Dellie, a newly-established Dutch settlement on the coast of Sumatra. The adoption of some regulations for the guidance of the Master-Attendant in regard to this Coolie traffic is much needed.

Education.

A Select Committee of the Legislative Council was appointed in 1870 to inquire into the state of education in the Colony, but no attempt has yet been made, either to carry out the suggestions of the Committee, or to bring the subject again before the Legislature. The Committee remark that the progress of education has been slow and uncertain, arising in a great measure from the indifference of the different races, more especially the Malays, to receive instruction, and to the want of sufficient encouragement from the Government.

In this Settlement, at the commencement of 1871, the opportunities offered by Government were less than they were under the Indian Government, while the statistics show that the wealth and population has steadily increased from year to year since the transfer.

The establishment known as the Prince of Wales' Island Free School, established in 1816, is a very popular institution, especially among the Chinese. A newly-appointed head master arrived from England during the year, and the Committee of Management have determined to obtain the services of another assistant master from one of the training colleges in England. The Government grant in aid of this school is $1,200 per annum, and the further expenditure is made up by subscriptions and school fees. The number of boys receiving education during the year amounted to 348 (as against 217 in 1869), paying towards their education in the following rates:—

	$ c.	
Free		2 boys
Monthly payment of	1 00	9 „
„ „	0 50	2 „
„ „	0 25	1 „
On annual payment of	6 00	13 „
„ „	5 00	2 „
„ „	4 00	7 „
„ „	3 00	186 „
„ „	2 50	1 „
„ „	2 00	102 „
„ „	1 50	4 „
„ „	1 00	19 „
Total		348 boys

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

With the commencement of the present year the numbers have increased to 380.

A Government grant of $900 is also given to the Roman Catholic schools, over which the Government exercise no control. The number of boys at this school is put down at 204. The education is conducted by Brother Joshua, assisted by four lay teachers from the Society of the Christian Brothers. They are all of foreign extraction, and the English education given at this school is therefore not very satisfactory.

A further Government grant of $1,000 is given to a very useful establishment known as St. Maur's Institution for the Education of Girls, and attached to which is an orphanage for women. The whole is under the charge of a lady superior, assisted by six sisters.

There is also a small vernacular school at a village about six miles from George Town, which is kept up by an annual allowance from Government of $120.

This comprises the whole of the educational establishments which I found in existence on my arrival in March last. In the estimates for the year a vote had been taken of $500 for vernacular schools, no portion of which was then being expended. I therefore considered that with this small vote an attempt might be made to bring a certain amount of education within the reach of the 23,000 children which the census returns show to be resident in Province Wellesley, where no school was in existence.

I therefore as a commencement have allowed the hadjis of certain villages, who have received a better education than is usual among their class, and who were employed in teaching a few Mahomedan children some texts of the Koran, to receive a selection of books, slates, &c., and I have required them to teach four hours daily in the vernacular, in reading, writing, and arithmetic. I have found that the parents are beginning to appreciate even this small attempt, and many applications are being made to Mr. Skinner (the Acting Magistrate of Police), who has taken great interest in this subject, to apply to me to increase the number of these schools. I do not, therefore, agree with the statement of the Committee, "that the progress of education has "been slow and uncertain, arising in a great measure from the indifference of the different races, more especially the Malays, to receive "instruction," but I would rather endorse the opinion that it is owing to the want of sufficient encouragement from the Government.

Imports and Exports.

These returns show a large and steadily increasing trade, as will be seen from a comparison of the last four years—

	Imports.	Exports.	Increase.
	$	$	$
1868 - - - -	8,529,038	9,629,475	—
1869 - - - -	9,472,240	11,372,923	2,686,650
1870 - - - -	13,218,994	13,877,927	6,251,758
1871 - - - -	16,881,639	17,197,565	6,982,223

or an increase for the past year of nearly $7,000,000 over the trade returns of 1870, and of $15,920,791 over those of 1868.

Although these returns, as they are now compiled, give very satisfactory evidence of the prosperity of this Settlement, they do not show the full extent of the trade, owing to the fact that a large portion of the coasting trade with the neighbouring States on the Malayan Peninsula and the coast of Sumatra, as also Junk Ceylon, is carried on by Chinese junks and other small crafts, the owners of which, through ignorance or to avoid trouble, do not report their arrival and departure. This port being entirely free, without any restrictions, the introduction of a law, compelling all shippers to declare their cargoes at the Master-Attendant's office, would be an advantage in many ways, and would cause a very large increase to be shown in the import and export trade.

Shipping.

The number of vessels arriving at, or departing from, this port, is so far in excess of any previous year, that I am justified in quoting the comparative statement in detail :—

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of SHIPPING between the YEARS 1870 and 1871.

1870.				1871.			
Inwards.	Tonnage.	Outwards.	Tonnage.	Inwards.	Tonnage.	Outwards.	Tonnage.
671	303,023	581	266,165	847	389,108	839	370,526

INWARDS.

	1870.		1871.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Schooner - -	125	12,096	203	13,852	78	1,756	—	—
Brig - - -	195	14,514	103	15,949	—	1,435	92	—
Barque - -	80	21,224	161	55,272	81	34,048	—	—
Ship - - -	37	30,786	34	26,401	—	—	3	4,385
Steamer - -	234	224,403	346	277,634	112	53,231	—	—
Total - -	671	303,023	847	389,108	271	80,470	95	4,385

OUTWARDS.

	1870.		1871.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Schooner - -	92	6,884	198	13,795	106	6,909	—	—
Brig - - -	160	12,026	106	12,340	—	314	54	—
Barque - -	68	12,766	154	39,852	86	27,086	—	—
Ship - - -	27	10,086	35	26,907	8	16,821	—	—
Steamer - -	234	224,403	346	277,634	112	53,231	—	—
Total -	581	266,165	839	370,526	312	104,361	54	—

The large increase in the number of steamers is to be attributed to the successful working of the Suez Canal.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Agriculture.

The items under this head are, I fear, very inaccurate, owing to the many small holdings cultivated by the Chinese and Malays, from whom it is impossible to obtain accurate returns of the produce of their husbandry, which is daily brought in for sale in the markets of this town.

The Island plantations have never recovered the severe blight which in 1857 destroyed nearly every nutmeg plantation then in existence. These plantations at that time were yielding at the rate of from $150 to $200 per acre. The lands formerly in nutmeg cultivation are now planted with cocoanut, durian, mangoosteen, and other fruit trees whieh, although not so valuable as the nutmeg, yield a fair return for the capital and labour expended. The Chinese have, however, commenced to replant the nutmeg tree, and with every present prospect of success.

In Province Wellesley considerable improvements have been made in agricultural operations during the year on the estates of European planters; while the Chinese are entering largely into the cultivation of sugar, and are obtaining steam machinery to replace the old cattle mills which they have hitherto employed in grinding the canes. The want of immigration is, however, much felt, and during the last few months there has been an evident unwillingness to embark more capital in sugar cultivation until the question of the supply of labour has been placed on a satisfactory footing. The returns received show even with this drawback, that the yield in sugar is 50,000 piculs in excess of the returns of 1870.

The territory added to the Province Wellesley by the rectification of the boundaries under the treaty with Siam of 1867 was surveyed during the year, and leases have been issued to all squatters in occupation at the time of the transfer. These leases have been granted for 999 years, on payment of the expenses of the survey and an annual quit rent of 60 cents per acre.

The delay which was allowed to occur between the settlement of the treaty and the survey of the newly-acquired lands will, I fear, lead to much litigation and some amount of hardship in settling the claims of many squatters who have been allowed to settle on lands without interference for three years, but who are found since the survey to be trespassing on lands granted under treaty to certain non-resident relations of the Rajah of Kedah, who had not up to the date of this survey made clear to these squatters their claims to these lands.

The cultivation of tapioca continues to give a satisfactory return, and experiments have recently been made by the proprietors of the Alma Estate to introduce the tea plant. They have now some twenty-five acres in bearing, and I am informed by the manager, who has had large experience in Assam and other tea-producing countries, that the trees have grown as well as could be desired, whilst the strength and flavour of the leaf is excellent, but he adds that its success as a profitable enterprise depends greatly on an abundant supply of Indian labour.

Gaols.

The prison system is still very defective, owing in a great measure to the transmarine convicts and local prisoners being lodged in the same building, the former being comparatively free men, and being mostly engaged in guarding the local prisoners both in the public works and within the prison. There is a total absence at the same time of "penal labour," as understood by the use of the treadwheel, crank, and shot-drill. The prisoners sentenced to "hard labour" are entirely employed in industrial labour.

I urged this subject on the notice of the general Government shortly after my arrival here, and I strongly recommended that the Ceylon Prison Rules should be adopted without delay. The Acting Governor appointed a Committee of Inquiry on the subject, but the result of their inquiries has not yet been made public.

The abolition of the transportation from India to this Settlement, and the arrangement for withdrawing all the transmarine convicts now here during the next year will greatly facilitate the adoption of a proper code of regulations for the guidance of the gaol authorities.

Charitable Institutions.

The only charitable institution at the commencement of the year was a large building known as the "Anti-Mendicity Society," in which a few Chinese paupers were maintained by voluntary subscriptions, and certain charitable bequests held in trust by the Supreme Court. The Committee of Management, which formerly was mainly composed of Government officers, had been allowed to "die out," and the funds were collected by one Chinese merchant, who finding that from want of interest and other causes, the subscription list fell off considerably, had decided to limit the number in the hospital to 35, although the building was capable of accommodating from 85 to 100. Under these circumstances it is scarcely to be wondered at that beggars and lepers in every stage of disease infested the streets.

During the year the Leper Hospital, built in 1865, 1866, and 1867 on an island about nine miles from this port, at a cost of $21,000, entirely contributed by the Chinese population, was opened for patients, and some 30 have availed themselves of this refuge, and appear contented and comparatively happy. The establishment is supported by the Government grant-in-aid, and by voluntary subscriptions, which at the present time exceed one-half of the current expenditure.

The Anti-Mendicity Society has also been placed on a more satisfactory footing, and I have been enabled to form a Committee of Management, consisting of some of the chief and most respected inhabitants of this Island; the Registrar of the Supreme Court having consented to act as treasurer of the funds.

The subscription list has largely increased, and every pauper may now be admitted if he can find two householders to vouch to his claims to admittance. Some certificate of this nature has been considered necessary in consequence of the proximity of this Colony to the neighbouring Malayan States, where it is customary when a

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Chinaman is incapacitated from further work in the tin mines, or elsewhere, to ship him to Penang to exist as best he can on charity.

General.

With the exception of an unusual prevalence of small-pox, during the months of August, September, and October, which did not, however, prove very fatal, the health of the Settlement has been very satisfactory, and all classes of the inhabitants have been peaceable and contented, but this remark, I regret to say, will not apply to many of the States bordering on this Colony.

A Committee was appointed early in the year to consider and report upon the relations of these Settlements and those neighbouring States which are not tributary to any country having a recognized consul, or other representative accredited to this Government. In their Report the Committee recommended that facilities should be given for a more constant increase of communication between this Government and the petty rajahs who occupy the country from Province Wellesley southward to Malacca, and that an attempt should be made to induce the rajahs to employ some educated Europeans to assist them in opening up and developing the resources of the territories under their charge.

The more important of the States are Perak, Klang, and Salengore. These countries are very rich in minerals, and the supply of capital and labour to work the tin mines is chiefly drawn from this Settlement. In neither of these States is the hereditary rajah the ruling chief, and the main object of those in power is to see that the royalty in tin is regularly paid to them.

The territory of Perak adjoins Province Wellesley on the southward, from which it is separated by a narrow river. It is from this district that the great majority of criminal cases brought before the Supreme Court arise. The lawless state of the country enables gangs of evil-disposed Malays to reside on the opposite bank of the river with apparent security, from which they make constant raids on the peaceable inhabitants of Province Wellesley, who live within easy reach of the boundary. At the date at which I am writing, serious riots have commenced among the Chinese population at the tin mines at Larote, in the Perak territory. These mines are about forty miles from the boundary, and are estimated to give employment to a Chinese population of over 40,000. The riots commenced with some slight disturbance in a gambling house, and would in all probability have been quelled at once if there was any law or order within the territory, but the rajah is helpless to act, and the Chinese will be left to "fight it out," while the rajah has taken refuge in his steamer, and writes to me, begging me to assist him, by conferring with the head men of the several tribes, with whom he considers I have some power. When it is borne in mind that the estimated import of tin from these mines alone during the present year would exceed $200,000 a month, and that the merchants have made advances upon this estimate, it is needless to remark that the present outbreak, if it is allowed to continue, will have a serious effect upon the trade of this place, whilst the peace of this Settlement is also

endangered by the influx of a large number of these rioters, who are fleeing here for protection from the stronger party, who are for the moment in possession of the mining ground.

The suggestions of the Committee may therefore be worthy of further consideration than they have received at present.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ARTHUR N. BIRCH,
Acting Lieutenant-Governor,
Penang.

The Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements.

REPORT of LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR SHAW on the BLUE BOOK of the SETTLEMENT of MALACCA, in the COLONY of the STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, for the year 1871.

Lieutenant-Governor's Office, Malacca,
SIR, February 27, 1872.

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this Settlement for the year 1871, together with my Report on it.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected in 1871 amounted to $123,858·68, showing a decrease on that collected in the previous year of $5,646·05, which may be attributed chiefly to the falling off of receipts under the following heads:—

Reimbursements of Public Works and Convict Departments.

Much less than the average crop of paddy, caused in a great measure by a murrain amongst the buffaloes.

Freight on Government steamers under heading "Port and Harbour Dues."

The expenditure for the year 1871 amounted to $118,971·44. There is a decrease under the head of "Convict Department" of $9,595; this, however, is nearly balanced by an increase under the head "Works and Buildings" of $8,879, leaving on the whole year a decrease of $458·35.

Military Expenditure.

No alteration has taken place in this force during the year 1871. The present detachment of Madras Native Infantry is to be relieved in 1872 by a detachment from a European regiment.

Civil and Criminal Justice.

The calendar for the two sessions during 1871 shows the following convictions:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Murder	2	—	2
Burglary	8	—	8
Larceny	15	—	15
Cutting and wounding	1	—	1
Piracy	48	—	48
Forgery	1	—	1
			75

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

The total number of persons sent up by the magistrate for trial was 105.

The case of piracy, which increases the number of convictions by 48, occurred in the Kallang Straits, and was tried at Malacca, as being the first port to which the prisoners were brought. Leaving this case out, as foreign to this Settlement, the number of criminals convicted in 1871 is only 15 more than the previous year, which may be attributed to the large number of Chinese Coolies who during the late disturbances at Klang and Salengore temporarily removed to Malacca.

From a return of the police magistrate the following statement, showing the number and description of petty offences which came under his cognizance, is given:—

	Nos. of Cases.
Assault	333
Disorderly behaviour	120
Using abusive language	134
Larceny	138
Misconduct of police constable	20
Breach Excise Ordinance	49
„ Conservancy Act	22
„ Gunpowder Ordinance	1
„ Hackney Carriage Ordinance	20
Gambling	107
Obstruction	57
Trespass	47
Breach of trust	7
Negligence in care of cattle	8
Fraudulent possession of property	7
Found to be lunatics	11
Miscellaneous offences against the Police Act	133
Miscellaneous offences against other local Acts and Ordinances	23
Offences within jurisdiction of Supreme Court	54
Total	1,291

Of these 1,291 charges, 631 males and 34 females were summarily convicted and punished by the magistrate by fine and imprisonment, &c., 738 males and 87 females were discharged, and 104 males and 1 female were committed for trial at the Supreme Court. As explained in Report for 1870, this number includes persons committed between the September sessions and the end of the year.

On the whole I am happy to state that although compared to the previous year there is an increase in the number of cases and criminals owing to the cause mentioned under Supreme Court, yet the serious Chinese riots which disturbed Singapore were not felt at Malacca, where we have great numbers of Chinese of the same tribes.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports for 1871 was $2,428,594 showing an increase on the imports for 1870 of $256,714, principally on the following articles:—

Swine, beeswax, rice, cocoanut and kachang oils, opium, and treasure.

The value of exports for 1871 was $2,476,862, being an increase in 1870 of $95,858, principally in the following articles:—

Swine, rice, cocoanut and kachang oils, opium, salt, tapioca, bricks, arrack, and treasure. The increase on both imports and exports is to be attributed to the termination of fighting at Kallang, which for a short time stopped all trade between that place and Malacca.

Shipping.

During 1870 there has been an increase of about 50 vessels calling at this port. Four local steamers now run between Singapore, Malacca, and Penang, calling occasionally at Kallang on their way to and from Penang, but two of these steamers are not regular, and cannot be depended upon.

Education.

There has been little or no change during the year 1871. The introduction of the Roman character instead of the Arabic for writing Malay would be a great advance in the right direction. At present, although we have a large Chinese community born in Malacca, and speaking Malay, they have no means of communicating with the Malays in writing, as those Malays who can write use the Arabic character, the Chinese (nearly all of whom can write), Chinese, and some few English.

Police Force.

A new Police Ordinance was passed on the 17th day of October, 1871, making great changes in the organization of this Force, and increasing the pay of the officers and men. Perhaps it is hardly fair to report so soon on the new system, and I will reserve any remarks I may have to make for my next Report.

General Remarks.

The Malays are losing their antipathy to leases, with the exception of the Sebattoo district.

The health of the population is good, but we had a very severemur rain among the buffaloes, which interfered much with the planting of paddy.

The most remarkable event that occurred during 1871 was the termination of the civil war at Kallang, in the Salengore territory; since then the Chinese, to the number of about 15,000, have returned to the tin mines, and also at Kapayang, in Sunghey Ujong, some 10,000 Chinese have commenced opening fresh tin mines. Sunghey Ujong adjoins our territory at the western boundary in the Quallah Lingey River. These Coolies come direct from China, but as all supplies go from Malacca, and the tin is brought here for sale, the Settlement derives great advantages therefrom.

The gold mine mentioned by me in my Report for 1870 is also being worked by a company: it is at Chandrass, only twelve miles from our northern boundary. As far as finding gold, it is successful, but it was started on too small a scale, with a capital of only $25,000;

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however, by increasing the company there is no doubt of its ultimate success, as the quartz yields two ounces of gold to the ton.

On the whole, I think the prospects of this Settlement look well for the future; the peninsula is full of minerals, but hitherto the want of protection to life and property in the Malay territories prevented European and Chinese from risking their money there.

The different chiefs are, however, at last becoming aware of the advantage of encouraging foreigners to open up their country, and if the gold mine at Chandrass is successful many other companies will follow.

The Datoh of Sunghey Ujong has applied to Mr. Henry Velge (the same gentleman who got the concession for the gold mine) to try and form a company to work his tin mines, as I consider that the opening of these mines must in the end benefit Malacca. I have done all in my power to assist Mr. Velge, who is the son of the largest and wealthiest proprietor in Malacca.

A Committee, consisting of the Colonial Secretary, Auditor-General, and Acting Surveyor-General, came down in August last from Singapore to report on the Malacca land question. I am anxiously awaiting their Report, for Malacca, as regards the land, is still in the same condition as reported by me in 1870.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. W. SHAW,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Colonial Secretary, Singapore.

REPORT of COLONIAL SECRETARY on SINGAPORE for the year 1870.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Singapore,
SIR, August 5, 1872.

By your Excellency's directions, I have the honour to submit the following Report on the Blue Book of 1870:—

Taxes and Fees.

2. A fuller account of all the sources of land revenue, taxes, fees, port and harbour dues, postage rates, fines, fees of office, reimbursements, and personal fees will be found in this year's Blue Book than has been given formerly. There has been no change during the year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

REVENUE.

3. The revenue for the year, compared with that of 1869 and 1871, was as follows:—

	$
1869 - - -	1,313,046
1870 - - -	1,378,748
1871 - - -	1,405,703

4. The actual increase in 1870 over 1869 was $65,702, and the principal causes of it were:—

	$
Sale of beach land at Penang	20,320
Stamps	31,378
Postage	15,432
Fees for pounding animals, &c.	3,274
Contributions from municipalities	9,707
Interest	4,500

But from these has to be deducted a considerable falling off in the receipts from convicts.

5. The actual increase in 1871 over 1870 was $26,955, and the principal items were:—

	$
Land sales	33,797
Postage	10,000
Reimbursements	3,900
Sale of steamers	36,000

And the items of decrease most noticeable were:—

	$
Stamps	35,000
Fees of office	3,194
Convicts	13,000
Interest	9,000

EXPENDITURE.

6. The expenditure for the year, compared with that of 1869 and 1871, was as follows:—

	$
1869	1,164,354
1870	1,259,376
1871	1,254,111

7. The actual increase in 1870 over 1869 was $95,022.
This was principally composed of:—

	$
Establishments	10,256
Lighthouses	1,688
Government vessels	51,451
Postal services	44,619
Education	3,562
Police	9,664
Roads, &c.	11,561
Miscellaneous	3,753
Military contribution	23,255
Special	12,488

While the noticeable decreases were:—

	$
Pensions	1,167
Stationery, &c.	3,547
Convicts	8,777
Rent	3,420
Transport	1,511
Works and buildings	52,175
Interest	5,969

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In this year, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh visited the Colony, and this accounts for the item under "Special," and $51,451 under Government Vessels is for the purchase of the new steamer 'Pluto,' while an increase of $23,255 is shown in Military Contributions, owing to 13 months' allowance being paid in 1870.

8. In 1871 there was an actual decrease over the expenditure of 1870 by $5,265.

The items of increase principally were:—

	$
Establishments	5,496
Pensions	2,067
Education	1,355
Police	3,858
Gaols	7,677
Harbour department	2,972
Transport	5,426
Miscellaneous	14,209
Works and buildings	23,171
Roads, &c.	7,814
Special expenses	5,492

These items include, under Miscellaneous, stationery, $5,000; type and printing presses, $5,000; Government grounds, $3,500. The excess of special expenses over 1870 was caused by the visit of the King of Siam, which caused an expenditure of $11,500, and the taking of the census at a cost of $10,300.

The items of decrease which led to an actual decrease on the whole expenditure were:—

	$
Convicts	10,967
Government vessels	45,181
Postal services	2,320
Interest	2,420
Military contribution	23,255

This latter item was caused by thirteen months being paid in 1870, which left only eleven months' proportion due this year.

9. The estimated and actual revenue and expenditure for the year 1870 were as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
Estimated	1,346,894	1,369,910
Actual	1,378,748	1,259,376
Excess	$31,854	Saving $110,534

The revenue exceeded the estimate by $31,854, and the expenditure was less than had been estimated by $110,534, giving a net balance in favour of the Colony of revenue over expenditure for the year, of $119,372.

Local Revenues.

10. The following are the amounts raised and expended in the years 1869, 1870, and 1871:—

SINGAPORE.

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	$	$	$
Revenue	132,158	126,421	128,708
Expenditure	153,889	132,328	137,129
Excess of expenditure over revenue	$21,731	5,907	8,421

which was met by drawing on the Reserve Fund.

PENANG.

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	$	$	$
Revenue	78,154	86,734	85,559
Expenditure	78,652	86,138	81,765
Excess of expenditure over revenue, met by balances of previous years	$498	—	—
Excess of revenue over expenditure	—	$596	3,794

MALACCA.

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	$	$	$
Revenue	16,502	16,413	15,900
Expenditure	15,019	17,745	18,542
Excess of revenue over expenditure	$1,483	—	—
Excess of expenditure over revenue, drawn from balances of previous years	—	$1,332	2,642

Public Works.

11. The expenditure on civil works, including stores and plant, in 1870, was as follows :—

	Works and Buildings.	Roads, &c.
	$	$
Singapore	26,800	8,116
Penang	22,436	32,611
Malacca	6,396	8,944

The principal works were the alteration of the Old Court House for a council chamber and public offices, and extensive repairs to the Hospital and Lunatic Asylum. A large extra expenditure was commenced on the roads in Province Wellesley, and a considerable sum expended on police stations there and at Penang.

Legislation.

12. The principal Ordinances passed during the session were :—
An Ordinance for consolidating and amending the Excise Laws.
An Ordinance for the better preservation of the Peace.
An Ordinance for amending Criminal Procedure.
An Ordinance for regulating Native Passenger Ships.
An Ordinance for taking a Census in 1871.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

An Ordinance for establishing a Money Order System.
An Ordinance for suppressing Gambling.
An Ordinance for Contagious Diseases.
An Ordinance for suppression of Dangerous Societies.
An Ordinance for securing Crown Debts.
An Ordinance for improving the Administration of Criminal Justice.
A Bankruptcy Ordinance.
An Ordinance for abolishing Imprisonment for Debt.
A Marine Court of Inquiry Ordinance.

Imports and Exports.

13. The imports and exports of the three Settlements for 1870, as compared with 1869 and 1871, were as follows:—

IMPORTS.

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	$	$	$
Singapore - - -	31,961,941	39,058,564	36,766,530
Penang - - - -	9,472,240	13,218,944	16,881,537
Malacca - - -	2,552,041	2,171,880	2,368,594
	$43,986,222	54,449,388	56,016,661

Showing, as compared with 1869, the following increase at Singapore and Penang:—

	$
Singapore - -	7,096,623
Penang - - -	3,746,704

And a decrease at Malacca of $380,161.

Compared with 1871, a decrease will be found in the latter year at Singapore of $2,292,034.

At Penang an increase of $3,662,593, and at Malacca an increase also of $196,714.

EXPORTS.

14. The returns of exports give the accompanying results:—

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	$	$	$
Singapore - - -	26,982,200	31,731,022	32,002,807
Penang - - - -	11,372,923	13,877,927	17,327,482
Malacca - - -	2,228,199	2,381,004	2,478,312
	40,583,323	47,989,953	51,808,601

Showing, as compared with 1869, an increase at all three Settlements as follows:—

	$
Singapore - -	4,748,822
Penang - - -	2,505,004
Malacca - - -	152,805
	$7,406,631

Compared with 1871, there is also an increase in that year over 1870 at all the three Settlements:—

	$
Singapore - -	271,785
Penang - - -	3,449,555
Malacca - - -	97,308

The increase in exports from Penang, which has been steadily progressing, is very remarkable.

Shipping.

15. The following Table shows the number of vessels entered at the three Settlements in 1869 and 1871, as compared with the year of this Blue Book, 1870. By vessels is meant square-rigged vessels and steamers.

ENTERED.

Year.	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1869 - - -	1,564	636,922	564	269,848	392	70,312
1870 - - -	1,604	668,182	671	303,023	320	64,007
1871 - - -	1,678	819,802	847	389,108	465	92,842

The number of native craft was not given at Penang for the years 1869 and 1870; but at Singapore and Malacca they are shown in the annexed Table, and at all three Settlements for 1871:—

Year.	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1869 - - -	2,062	73,372	Not given.		746	13,867
1870 - - -	2,463	78,089	Not given.		786	15,502
1871 - - -	2,348	80,914	2,247	74,314	890	14,730

16. Vessels cleared at the several Settlements are shown in the following Table, as well as native craft:—

	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
VESSELS.						
1869 - -	1,490	575,303	559	288,611	398	70,746
1870 - - -	1,557	626,105	581	266,165	326	65,741
1871 - -	1,689	680,357	839	370,526	467	94,191
NATIVE CRAFT.						
1869 - -	2,028	75,960	—	—	817	13,897
1870 - - -	2,455	78,084	—	—	842	17,717
1871 - -	2,376	83,184	2,830	78,513	990	15,925

17. It is, I think, unnecessary for me to make any further comparisons as regards the returns in this book, except to call attention to the postal returns, which show a very large increase in letters, newspapers, and books transmitted by post at all the three Stations.

18. Comparative meteorological returns for 1869 and 1870 are also included.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

19. Some judicial statistics have been prepared for 1870 of both the civil and criminal work, as well as of inquests. Returns of a similar nature, and in the same form, are included in the 1871 Blue Book.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. W. W. BIRCH,
Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements.

REPORT of Lieutenant-Governor SHAW on the BLUE BOOK of the SETTLEMENT of MALACCA, in the COLONY of the STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, for the year 1870.

Lieutenant-Governor's Office, Malacca,
SIR, May 30, 1871.

In forwarding the Blue Book of this Settlement for the year 1870, I have the honour to transmit the following Report thereon:—

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected in the year 1870 amounted to $129,504·73, exceeding, I am gratified to state, that of 1869 by the sum of $5,878·38.

The increase is chiefly attributable to the more advantageous sale of the excise farms, but there is also a small increase in the revenue derived from other sources, particulars as to which are detailed below:—

	$ c.
Rents	185 16
Licences farmed out	8,092 37
Stamps	732 90
Port and harbour dues	90 77
Postage	52 33
Fees of office	437 99
Reimbursements on account of miscellaneous departments	2,827 25
Sale of Government property	2 10
	$12,430 87

This sum, $12,430·87, has to be reduced by $6,552·49 in consequence of the falling off of receipts under the following heads:—

Land revenue, fines and forfeitures, reimbursements on account of public works and convict departments, leaving $5,878·38 as the total actual increase of the revenue of 1870 over that of 1869.

The expenditure for 1870 amounted to $119,429·79, being a decrease on that of 1869 of $4,999·61, attributable chiefly to the reduction, by lapse of time and other causes, of the number of convicts at Malacca; some reduction of expenditure is also noticeable under the heads of police, pensions, &c.

Military Expenditure.

No change has taken place in the military establishment during the year 1870. The expenditure for the military at this Settlement is paid at Singapore, and is not charged to Malacca.

Civil and Criminal Justice.

Sessions of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery are held twice a year at Malacca, the Chief Justice visiting the Station in the months of March and September for the purpose. The Solicitor-General comes from Penang on these occasions and acts as Public Prosecutor. In addition to the two regular sittings of the Supreme Court in 1870, a special session was held in May; the Calendars for the three sessions show the following convictions:—

Crimes.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Murder	2	—	2
Burglary	3	—	3
Larceny	3	—	3
Breach of trust	1	—	1
Cutting and wounding	2	—	2
Perjury	1	—	1

The whole number of persons sent up by the magistrate for trial was 29.

Considering that the population has been recently found to exceed 77,000, it must be admitted that the proportion of criminals is extremely low. Minor offences are dealt with summarily by the Police Magistrate. From a return furnished by Mr. Maxwell, the Police Magistrate and Commissioner of the Court of Requests at Malacca, I have been enabled to give the following statement regarding the number and description of petty offences which came under his cognizance in 1870. The district as well as the town of Malacca is within his jurisdiction:—

Nature of Offences.	Nos. of Cases.
Assault	337
Disorderly behaviour	105
Using abusive language	162
Larceny	90
Misconduct of police constable	16
Breach Excise Ordinance	33
„ Conservancy Act	49
„ Gunpowder Ordinance	3
„ Hackney Carriage Ordinance	23
Gambling	34
Obstruction	25
Trespass	54
Breach of trust	12
Negligence in care of cattle	29
Receiving stolen property	12
Fraudulent possession of property	14
Found to be lunatics	5
Miscellaneous offences against the Police Act	106
Miscellaneous offences against other local Acts and Ordinances	28
Offences within jurisdiction of Supreme Court	86
Total	1,223

Of these 1,223 charges, 831 males and 34 females were summarily convicted and punished by fine and imprisonment, 782 males and

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

102 females were discharged, and 90 males and 2 females were committed for trial at the Supreme Court; this number includes persons committed between the September sessions and the end of the year, 50 pirates among the number. I am glad to be able to report that prædial larceny, known in India as dacoity, and in this Colony as gang robbery, may be said to be unknown in this Settlement.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports for 1870 was $2,171,880. These figures show a decrease on the value of imports for 1869 of $380,161, which is noticeable principally on the following articles:—

Tin, Kachang oil, treasure, salt, arrach, and salt fish; of these, it is in tin, Kachang oil, and treasure that depression is most apparent, a depression which I attribute to the disturbed state of the territory adjacent to the Klang River, which has been the scene of a desultory warfare carried on by two native chiefs, having for its object the acquisition of the Klan Tin Mines, belonging to the Sultan of Salangore; this river is situated about 100 miles to the N.W. of Malacca, and nearly all trade between Klang and Malacca was stopped during 1870.

The value of the export for 1870 was $2,381,004, being an increase on the amount reported under this head in 1869 of $152,805. This increase occurs in the following articles:—

Rice, tapioca, treasure, gutta percha, and gambier.

Shipping.

No change has taken place during the year 1870.

Education.

No change has taken place during the year 1870 in connection with the schools in this Settlement, the question of national education in the Straits Settlements not having yet been made the subject of legislation. The matter was, however, reported on by a Select Committee of the Legislative Council at the close of the year 1870, and the recommendation of this Committee, if embodied in an Ordinance of the Legislature, will, I have no doubt, produce very beneficial results in connection with education.

I am glad to be able to report a great improvement which has taken place during the year 1870 in the Malacca Free School, the average daily attendance of boys having risen from 150 to 200.

Police Force.

No change has taken place during 1870 except the addition of one European Deputy Inspector; the police of the three Settlements has been reported upon by the Committee on Civil Establishments with a view to its reorganization.

General Observations.

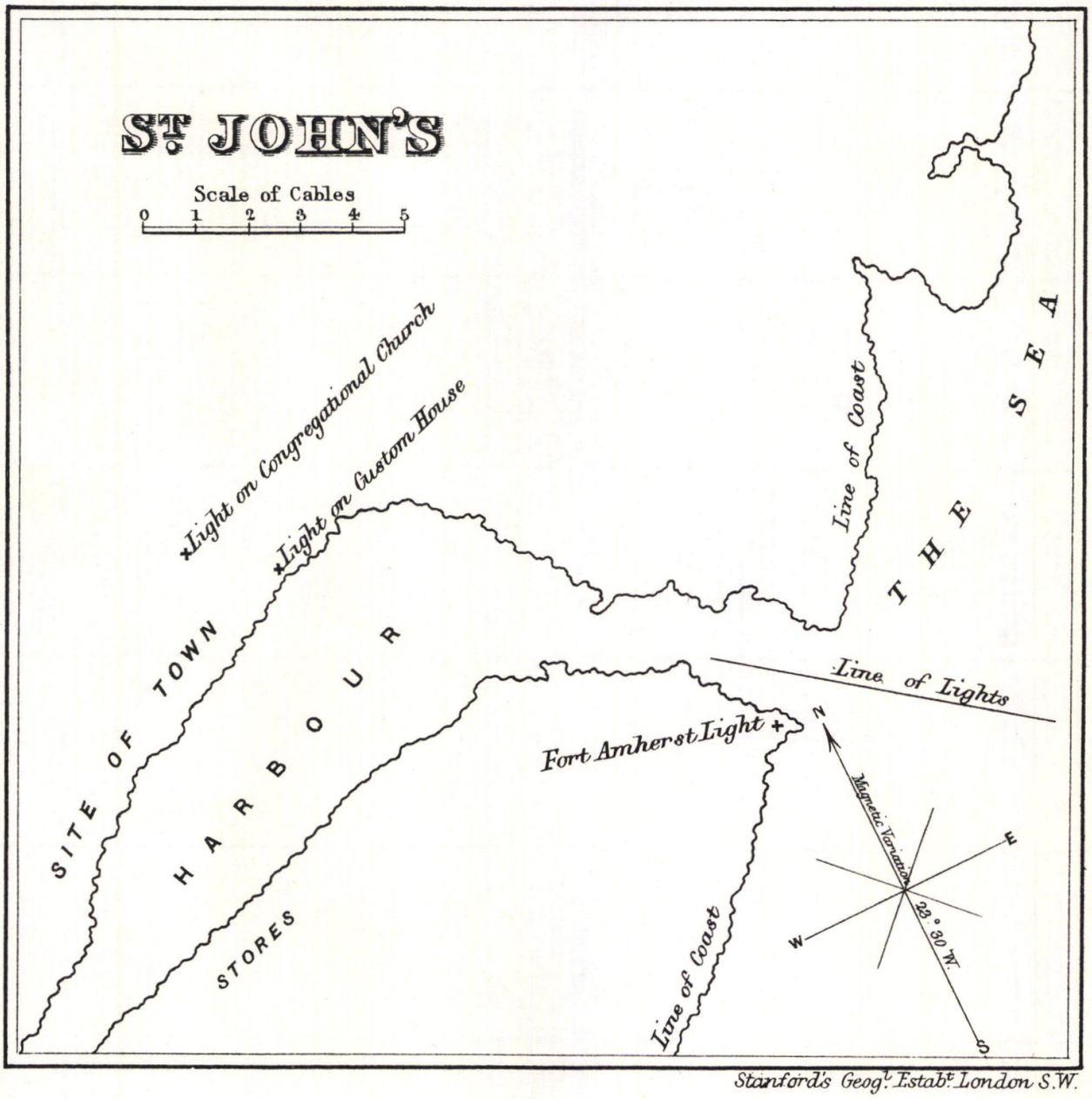
So full a report was made for 1869 under this head, that I have nothing to add to it. During 1870 a Mr. H. Velge of Malacca obtained a concession from the Datoh of Johole to work the tin and gold mines in the districts of Guminchi and Chandrass, places lying within 8 miles of our N.E. frontier. The gold mines at Chandrass


58
56
54
50
48
NEWFOUNDLAND.
10 20 40 60 Miles
CANADA
Strait of Belle Isle
C. Norman
Pistolet B.
Quirpon I.
C. Bauld
S. Innaire B.
C. S. Anthony
Goose C.
Brents I.
Hare Bay
Fishot I.
S. Barbe B.
Pr. Edward Hr.
S. Genevieve B.
Margarets B.
Ferolle Pt.
Groais I.
Cove H.r
C. Rouge
St. Johns Bay
St. Johns Is.
Canada Bay
Canada C.
South Belle I.
South Rock
Pt. Rich
Ingornachoix B.
Green Pond R.
Hawkes H.r
Hooping H.r
Mutt B.
Table Pt.
Fourchette B.
Orange R.
Orange B.
Deep R.
Portland Cr.
Partridge Pt.
St. Barbe or Horse Is.
Sandy B.
White Bay
Little B.
Confusion B.
C. St. John
Gull I.
Steering I.
St. Pauls B.
Granby I.
Notre Dame Bay
Sop R.
Green B.
Long I.
Triltim I.
Fortune H.r
North H.d
Bay of Exploits
Toulinguet I.
New World I.
Fogo I.
Sir J. Hamiltons Sd.
Wadham Is.
Penguin I.
Bonne Bay
Trout B.
Indian B.
Chapel I.
Rocky B.
Cape Freels
C. S. Gregory
Pearl I.
Green I.
Tweed I.
Sandy I.
L. Badger
Heat R.
New B.
Howards
Greens Pond
B. of Islands
F O G O
Heath H.d
Deer I.
B. of Islands Lake
Indian B.
Bear Head
River of Exploits
Trinity B.
Gooseberry Is.
Cottels I.
Shag I.d
Long Pt.
Port au Port
Mc Gregor Lake
Bathurst or Victoria Lake
Lake Lambert
Ireshwater Bay
Bay of Bonavista
C. Barrow
Bloody B.
C. Bonavista
Blackhead B.
Bonavista
North H.d
Catalina H.r
C. St George
R. S. George
L. Fitzgerald
L. Hooker
Sandy B.
Rattling B.
Burnt Wood B.
Gambo R.
Newman Sd.
Clodes Sd.
St George Bay
Flat B.
George IV. L.
Jameson I.
Goose B.
Trinity
Wallace L.
Bay L.
Sussex L.
Barrow L.
Forbes L.
Smith Sd.
Random Sd. & I.
Breakheart Pt.
Bacalieu I
Wilson L.
Scott L.
Johnston L.
Pr. William I.
Barrasway R.
First R.
F O R T U N E B A Y
PLACENTIA & ST MARY
TRINITY B.
Trinity B.
Conception B.
C. Anguille
Hellyer L.
Bull B.
Pipers Hole
C. St Francis
Torbay
St. Codroy R.
Carbonear
ST JOHNS
C. Spear
C. Ray
Otter B.
La Moine B.
Carin R.
Gt Barachaus B.
Cod Trust
Coteau B.
White Bear Bay
Old Mans B.
Little R.
Connes R.
Salmonier
Mal B.
Long H.r
Gr. Herre
Long I.
Dildo H.r
Paradise Sound
Marticheen I.
CONCEP-TION
Bulls B
Ferryland Har.
Broyle H.r
Placentia
Mortier B
Collinet I.
St Mary
Holyrood P.
Trepassey
Ferryland
Rencontre B.
Oar B.
Tacheaux B.
Despair B.
Briton Har.
Belle B.
Long Is.
Hermitage B.
Hare B.
Fortune Bay
Connaigre B.
Pt. Boxey
Rashoon
Red I.
Audierne I
Placentia
Jerseyman Bank
Fortune Har.
Burin B
Breem Pt.
Trepassey Bay
C. Ballard
C. Race
Grande Miquelon I.
St. Lawrence
Corbin Hd.
C. May
Langley I. or Petite Miquelon I.
St. Pierre I.d
Gaules Pt.
Laun
St. Lawrence Har.
C. St Mary
Pt. Lance
St. Mary B.
C. Freels
Trepassey Bay
Port au Port
Port au Basques
Rose Blanche Pt.
Envageer Pt.
La Poile B.
Cinque Cer B.
Coronaire B.
Gt Barachaus B.
Burgeo I.
Wolf B.
Rameau I.
Little River B.
C. La Hune
Penguin I.
Chaleur B.
Sagonas I.
Brunet I.
C. Jervis
To France
Sandy B.
Batteau B.
Lake Lambert
Ireshwater Bay
Bloody B.
Gambo R.
Newman Sd.
Clodes Sd.
Goose B.
Trinity
Smith Sd.
Random Sd. & I.
Breakheart Pt.
Bacalieu I
Pipers Hole
Bull B.
C. St Francis
Torbay
Carbonear
ST JOHNS
C. Spear
Dildo H.r
Paradise Sound
Marticheen I.
CONCEP-TION
Bulls B
Broyle H.r
Ferryland Har.
Placentia
Mortier B
Collinet I.
St Mary
Holyrood P.
Trepassey
Ferryland
C. Ballard
C. Race
Trepassey Bay
Stanfords Geog.l Estab.t London S.W.

PLAN OF THE

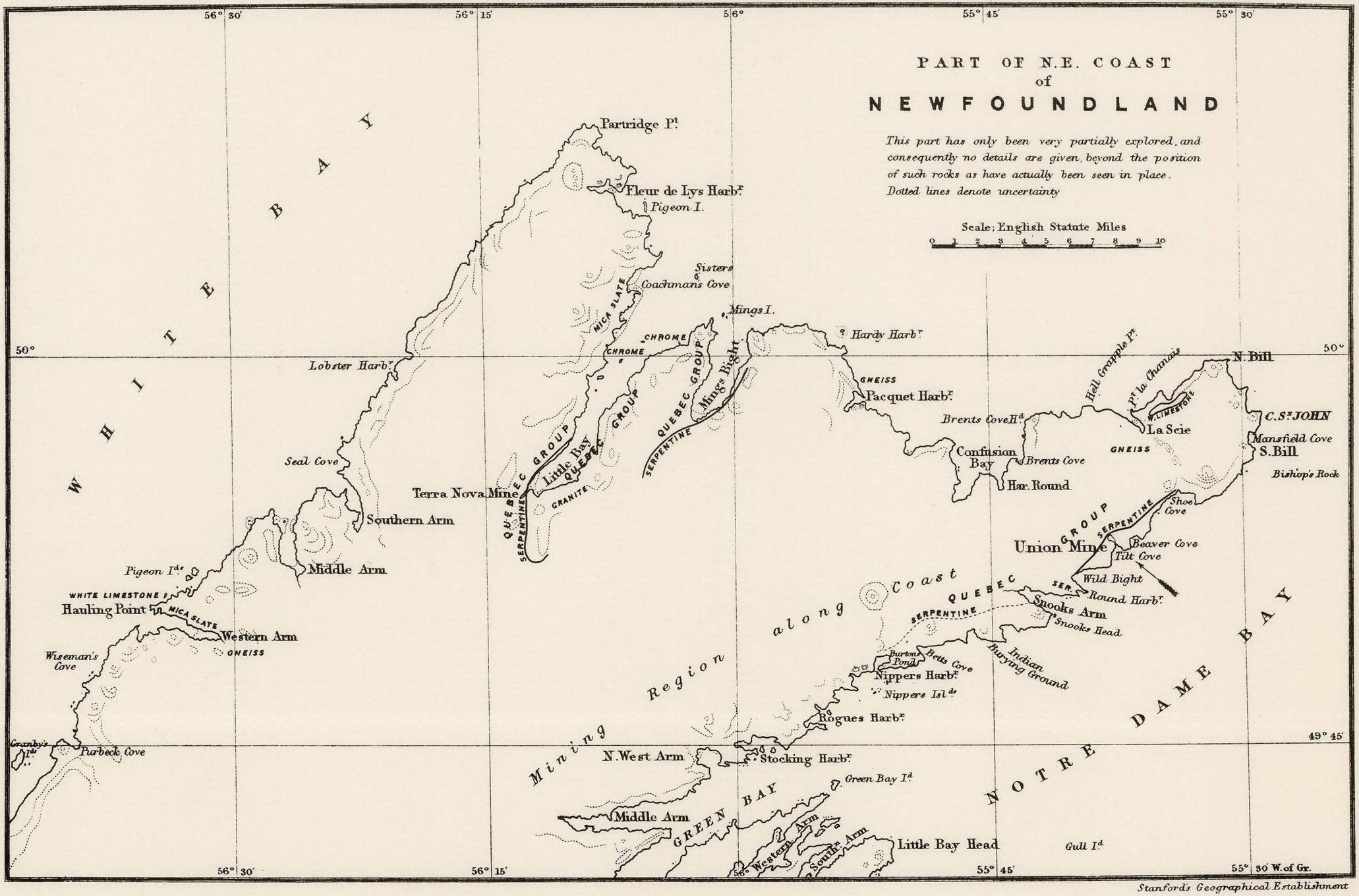
HARBOUR OF St JOHN'S

Explanatory of Line of Lights on entering.



Stanford's Geog.l Estab.t London S.W.

MAP SHEWING POSITION OF TILT COVE MINE.



Stanford's Geographical Establishment

have been worked from remote ages by the Malays, and are said to be very rich. If these mines, which it is proposed to work by means of a company, on the limited liability principle, prove lucrative, it is obvious that the population and trade, and consequently the revenue, of this Settlement, will be considerably increased. To reach these mines from Malacca, 32 miles by road through British territory have to be traversed.

The Ordinances requiring compulsory vaccination and the registration of births and deaths were put in force in September, 1870, and little or no opposition has been experienced in working them; not a single prosecution has been instituted by the Government for breaches of these Ordinances.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) E. W. SHAW,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
Singapore.

[J. C. B.]

NEWFOUNDLAND.

No. 5.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor HILL, C.B., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Newfoundland,
November 30, 1872.

MY LORD,

WHEN in December last I had the honour to submit to your Lordship a Report upon the affairs of this Colony for the then previous year, I remarked succinctly upon each of the statistical heads contained in the Blue Book. As these annual statistics vary but slightly, the observations which I have already made on them may be considered equally applicable to those of each year. I have therefore in the present instance touched upon matters in connection with the Island which are not generally known outside the Colony.

2. I have, in the Report to accompany the Blue Book of Newfoundland for the year 1871, herewith transmitted in duplicate, endeavoured to describe some of the leading topographical and geographical features of the country, and to invite attention to some of its resources, which are, I fear, little appreciated even in the Colony. I have only glanced at the fisheries, as they have been frequently and ably reported upon.

3. Nothing of an unusual character took place during the sitting of the Legislature in 1871. The Ordinances then passed were not of such a nature as to require special comment. The Revenue Act of that year differed from the preceding one only in the slight particular of a reduction in the duty from 20 to 13 per cent. ad valorem on certain articles of leather ware. The Financial Statement, 1871, showed the debt of the Colony to be very small in proportion to the revenue, a considerable balance in the Treasury, and the condition

NEWFOUNDLAND.

of the country to be sound and healthy. I am happy to find that this satisfactory state of affairs still continues.

4. The year 1871 was remarkable for a seal fishery, one of the best on record, a cod fishery more than usually abundant, and an ample supply of good crops. The condition of affairs in Newfoundland during the past year may therefore be considered as rather more prosperous than the preceding year (1870), a season which, in December last, I reported to your Lordships as more than usually satisfactory.

5. The most important event of the present year is the establishment of direct steam communication between the Island and Great Britain. My ministers have very wisely entered into a contract with the Allan Line to touch at St. John's once a month to and from Liverpool during nine months of the year. It is now in contemplation to extend this contract to a fortnightly service. I believe that such an extension would be fraught with incalculable benefits to the Colony.

6. In conclusion, I may refer to the Exhibition held in St. John's during last September, and the first of the kind ever attempted in the Island. It has already done much good, inasmuch as it has raised the country in the estimation of its own people, whose previous small estimate of its capabilities has been the principal impediment to her progress.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL.

Topography.

Topographical Features.

The general character of the Island of Newfoundland is that of a rugged, and for the most part a barren, country—hills and valleys continually succeeding each other, the former never attaining the height of mountains, and the latter seldom expanding into plains. The interior of the country may therefore be described as a large undulating plateau, over which are scattered, in plentiful confusion, low hills or ridges, level marshes and numerous lakes. The summits of the hills, and not unfrequently the sides, are, as a rule, in respect to the former, bare. The woods generally are to be found clothing the sides of those hills where there is natural drainage for the surplus water, which circumstance may account for the presence of woods in the vicinity of the sea or on the borders of lakes and the banks of rivers, where the soil is productive and otherwise favourable. The trees consist of fir, fit for ordinary purposes, such as building, road making, or for telegraph poles; birch, which is sometimes found large enough for the construction of Indian canoes, pine, juniper, larch, wych-hazel, mountain ash, the alder, the aspen, spruce, and tamarack. Most of the trees are of a small and stunted growth, covered with lichens, and tufts of white dry moss are frequently entangled about the branches. The summits of the hills, as before stated, are generally "bare," hence the name of "barrens," which is given to ridges and other exposed tracts. These barrens are thinly covered with scrubby vegetation, consisting of berry plants and dwarf bushes of various species. They (the barrens) are never of any great extent,

woods, marshes, and barrens generally alternating with each other in a journey of 18 or 20 miles. It may not be here out of place to allude to a very striking feature of the country, viz. the abundance of lakes of all sizes, which are invariably called "ponds." The whole surface of the land is covered with these ponds, not excepting the summits of ridges and the tops of hills. They vary in magnitude from small pools 50 yards in diameter, to large lakes 50 miles in length, and from 5 to 8 miles in breadth. Taken in connection with the abundance of lakes, the statement of the late Professor Jukes respecting the total absence of navigable rivers appears most anomalous. Mr. Jukes, in his "General Report of the Geological Survey "of Newfoundland," published in 1843, accounts for the absence of navigable rivers by the broken and undulating nature of the country, and by the great coating of moss, which, spread over the surface of the land, absorbs the chief portion of the rain and melted snow. This explanation is almost endorsed by the presence of innumerable brooks, the existence of which may be attributed to the vast number of ponds, as each pond or each set of them has a valley of its own, down which it sends a small stream, that pursues the nearest route to the sea. Recent discoveries have, however, proved that some of the rivers of this Island are navigable, not perhaps for vessels of any great tonnage, but for small craft, boats, canoes, &c., &c., the Exploits River, the Terra Nova River, Humber River, and others, are, with the exception of the St. Lawrence, Ottawa, and Saguenay Rivers, able to hold comparison in respect to navigation with any rivers of the British North American continent. They will be hereafter briefly treated in detail. In reference to the scantiness of the brooks, they are necessarily small, as any great accession of moisture is sucked in by the moss in a great measure; the remainder having filled the numerous ponds, leaves but a small residue to be carried off by the brooks. They—the brooks—invariably flow into one of the numberless harbours, coves, or creeks which indent the coast-line, and which by a bountiful provision of nature afford countless and secure places of refuge to the industrious fisherman, who, while engaged in his perilous avocation, is comforted by the hope of being able, in the event of danger, to reach a haven of safety.

The coast-line, the sinuosities of which may be reckoned at several thousand miles, is further indented by numerous expansive bays. A prominent feature in connection with these bays will strike even a casual observer of a map of Newfoundland. They all lie in the same line of bearing, viz. in a north-east and about south-west direction. The same feature will also be observed with respect to the ranges of hills, and the principal lakes and valleys. These prominent features are due to the regularity of the strike of the rocks and its parallelism throughout the Island — a remarkable phenomenon, which rarely varies, except for very short distances, when local disturbing forces have affected it. Having given a brief description of the physical geography of Newfoundland, taken in a general sense, I shall now proceed to offer in detail a few succinct observations on some of the geographical features of the Island.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Mountains.

Geographical Features.—Mountains.

Although it has been before stated that the hills of this country never attain the height of mountains, the principal ranges of such hills as form regular watersheds may, without much impropriety, be classed under the above head.

In the peninsula of Avalon, which is only separated from the rest of Newfoundland by a small isthmus, not more than 3 miles broad, there are two principal ranges of hills, forming regular watersheds. One of these ranges—the most easterly—runs from Renowes to Holyrood, in Conception Bay. It has rugged tops and precipitous faces, without being very lofty, the height probably not exceeding (700) seven hundred feet. This range is made remarkable by being flanked by two conical hills, called "Butterpots," which are rather more than one thousand (1,000) feet high, and are distant from each other about (20) twenty miles.

The second principal range runs from Cape Dog, in St. Mary's Bay, to the head of Trinity Bay. It is level and continuous, less broken and rugged than the former ridge, and has on it various round and flat-topped elevations, one of which—the north-eastern mountain of Placentia—rises to a height of about (1,400) fourteen hundred feet above the level of the sea. There are many minor ridges in Avalon, but those ranges to which I have referred are the most striking, and to which all other hills in the peninsula are subordinate.

With respect to the mountains of the main portion of the Island, the rugged and precipitous character of the western shores of Placentia Bay, from Cape Chapeau Rouge to Piper's Hole, some of the hills of which are (1,000) one thousand feet high, cannot fail to attract notice. According to the late Professor Jukes this lofty and broken range runs along the western side of Trinity Bay to Trinity Harbour, and thence crosses into Bonavista, at Keel's Head. It has an irregular width of several miles, and to its extension from the last-named place may be attributed the high and steep lands about the many islands of the southern portion of Bonavista Bay. An isolated peak of this range, one thousand (1,000) feet high, from the extensive view which it commands, deserves mention. It is situated at the head of Trinity Bay, is named by the inhabitants of that bay and of Placentia Bay, Sainter's Hill, and Powderhorn Hill respectively. Is is called on the chart, Centre Hill, and overlooks the whole of the bays of Placentia, and Trinity, as well as some of the high grounds of Conception, Bonavista, and Fortune Bays.

To the westward of Bonavista Bay there are two ranges of hills—one situated between the waters—which empty themselves into Gander Bay and into the Bay of Exploits. The northern end of the former range, which runs about north-east and south-west, and attains a height of nearly (1,000) one thousand feet, is called the Blue Hills. Its continuation to the south is named the Heart Ridge.

The second range of hills crosses the river Exploits at about (30) thirty miles from its mouth. The northern part of this range rises in the north to a summit called Hodge's Hill; that to the south of the river goes by the name of the Shutebrook Hills.

A range of hills runs from Cape Ray—the extreme west point of Newfoundland—into the interior in a north-east direction. There are several ranges of hills on the west side of the Island, one of which

is the largest and best marked in the Colony. It runs from St. George's Bay, northwards, to the Bay of Islands, where is is cut by the valley of the Humber River. Thence it continues north to Bonne Bay, and from inquiries made by Mr. Jukes, will be found down the centre of the tongue of land which stretches out to the north between White Bay and the Straits of Belle Isle. There is a line of rugged hilly country in the neighbourhood of York and Lark harbours, on the south side of the Humber Sound. These heights are called the Blow-me-down Hills. Before concluding the subject of "mountains" it may be desirable to give the names and heights of the principal hills in the vicinity of St. John's, viz. Signal Hill, five hundred and twenty (520) feet, the Southside Hill, seven hundred (700) feet, and Branscombe Hill, eight hundred and seventy (870) feet above the level of the sea. I should not omit to refer to (3) three remarkable hills called "Tolts," which are situated to the eastward and north-east of the valley of the Bay East River, tower over the rest of the plain, and rise to a height of probably over (2,000) two thousand feet above the sea. The most southern of them is called "Mount Sylvester;" and the three bearing in almost a straight line, and about equidistant from each other, serve as land-marks to guide the Indian and the traveller from Piper's Hole to the river Exploits.

Lakes.

Lakes.

I have already referred to the vast number of lakes which are found universally over the face of the country. I of course allude to such portions of the interior as have already been explored. I shall now proceed to name a few of the principal lakes in the main part of the Island. It would be impossible almost to name all or even a moderate number of the multitude of ponds to which each explorer adds his quota. The most extensive lakes are as follows: viz. "Grand Pond," "Red Indian Pond," "Gander Pond and Brook," "George the Fourth's Lake," "Jameson's Lake," "Bathurst Lake," and "Terra Nova Lake."

Grand Pond is situated, according to Mr. Jukes, about 15 miles from the head of St. George's Bay, in a north-easterly direction; from thence—its south western extremity—to its north-eastern extremity is a distance of about (50) fifty miles. Its greatest breadth is about (5) five miles.

The Red Indian Lake is (425) four hundred and twenty-five feet above the level of the sea, (33) thirty-three miles in length, and (3) three miles at its greatest breadth. The Exploits River, at the head of which this lake is situated, flows from it-in a north-easterly direction, and after a course of (70) seventy miles falls into Notre Dame Bay.

Gander Pond and Brook are situated about west from Bonavista Bay. The former is crescent-shaped, about (30) thirty miles long and (2) two miles wide. The brook is situated some miles to the south of the pond, is somewhat similar in shape, but less in extent.

The position and size of "George the Fourth's Lake," "Jameson's "Lake," and "Bathurst Lake," have not yet been accurately ascertained. According to Mr. Jukes' map of the Island their situation may be described as westward from Trinity Bay towards St. George's Bay, and south of the Red Indian and Grand Ponds.

Terra Nova Lake is situated at the head of the river of the same

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name, is elliptical in shape, about four (4) miles in length, and (2½) two and a half miles in breadth.

With reference to the abundance of lakes, some idea of their vast number may be gleaned from the fact, recorded by Mr. Jukes, that from the top of the "North-east Mountain" of Placentia (67) sixty-seven ponds were counted, some of them (3) three miles across, none less than (100) one hundred yards, and none at a greater distance than (10) miles from the base of the hill. Many more existed within that area, hidden by woods and intervening hills. Mr. Jukes also records that from the summit of the "Powderhorn Hill" (153) one hundred and fifty-three ponds were counted of all sizes, some of them having a diameter of (2) two miles, and all within a radius of (5) five miles on one-side, and ten miles on the other. It is evident that to map such a district as this with any degree of accuracy would require considerable time and labour. At present the Director of the Geological Survey, Mr. Murray, is engaged in the double task of making a topographical and geological survey of the interior of the Island. I may therefore state that little time will elapse before an accurate map of at least a portion of the unknown part of this country is published.

With respect to the statement of those acquainted with the Island, that one-third (⅓) of Newfoundland is covered with fresh water, it is not, I think, unreasonable to infer, when we consider the vast number of lakes invariably discovered in such portions of the interior as have hitherto been explored, that this large proportion of water to land would not be found an exaggeration.

Rivers.

Rivers.

The principal rivers of the Island are—the Exploits River, the Terra Nova River, the Salmonier River, Colinet and Rocky Rivers, Great and Little Codroy Rivers, and the Humber, besides many brooks and streams of considerable extent.

The Exploits River flows from Red Indian Lake in a north-easterly direction into Notre Dame Bay; its length is about (70) miles, and average* breadth one hundred yards. This river and its tributaries afford water power to a large extent. The scenery is said to be very fine. Twenty miles from its mouth are the Grand Falls one hundred and forty-five (145) feet in height, the view of which is very imposing. The harbour of Exploits, into which the river flows, is an excellent one, and accessible to the largest vessels at all periods of the tide. It has, however, the great drawback of being encumbered with ice late in the spring.

The Terra Nova River discharges a considerable quantity of water, and may be considered an important stream. It flows, after a course of nearly one hundred miles, into Bonavista Bay. Mr. Murray, of the Geological Survey, made a survey of a portion of this river thirty-four (34) miles from its mouth, in 1869. He describes it as extremely tortuous, full of several very strong rapids and some falls. It makes many minor turns in its course, generally flowing with a swift current, and very rapid on approaching the Falls, where his survey of the main river terminated, and where the rise in the river was ascertained to be (299) two hundred and ninety-nine feet. The principal tri-

* Not accurately determined, as it is very broad for some distance from its mouth.

butaries of the Terra Nova River are Maccles Brook, Pitt's Pond Brook, and the north-west brook of Terra Nova Lake.

The Salmonier, Colinet, and Rocky Rivers empty themselves into St. Mary's Bay, the Salmonier flowing out of a large pond called the Hundred Island Pond, and with the Colinet and Rocky, close together, empties itself into Colinet arm. Of these Rocky River is the most considerable, having the longest course of any river in the peninsula of Avalon. It is one hundred and fifty (150) yards wide at its mouth, and for a distance of half a mile is several feet deep, with rocky and precipitous banks. Its navigation is then stopped by waterfalls of very picturesque appearance; the river here, is (40) forty yards wide. It takes two leaps of about thirty feet each, over ledges of hard rock, with a foaming rapid of one hundred yards in length between the falls. For some miles above this spot the river is about eighty (80) yards wide, but rapid, stony, and shallow.

The Great Codroy River runs into the sea, between (15) fifteen and (16) sixteen miles north of Cape Ray, and about (6) six miles south-east of Cape Anguille. The entrance from the sea is very narrow, passing between banks of sand and gravel, full of bars and shifting reefs, which stretch outwards to a considerable distance, rendering the approach even for small craft difficult and dangerous, although, when once inside there is an excellent harbour sheltered thoroughly from the violence of the storms from without, by which it is constantly assailed.

The lower portion of this river is wide and open, but flat and shallow over the whole area, except in the main channel, when at high tide vessels of considerable size can ascend for upwards of (3) three miles. The upper part of this portion of the river is also wide and open, but contains several islands which extend to the point—(6) six miles from the mouth—where the current of the river becomes perceptible. The stream from this point gradually increases in rapidity, until, at a distance of (21) twenty-one miles from its mouth, it becomes a mountain torrent falling at the rate of (4) four feet in a mile, giving a rise in the measured length of the river—(21) twenty-one miles—of about (45) forty-five feet.

The Little Codroy River pours its waters into the sea at a distance of about (4) four miles south of the outlet of the Great Codroy River. This stream runs parallel to, and not far from, the north-western base of Cape Ray range for the whole or greater part of its course, receiving many tributary streams from the mountains on its way. Above the estuary, at its mouth, it is very shallow and rapid, and inaccessible for canoes.

Barrachois and Flat Bay Brooks.

A stream known as the Barrachois Brook falls into the sea a short distance outside of Flat Bay, the entrance being about south-east of Harbour Point, and another small river about the same size as the Barrachois, called the Flat Bay Brook, discharges itself into the sea at the head of Flat Bay. Both these streams are navigable for canoes for a considerable distance. The course of the Barrachois, in a general bearing, is north-east for nearly nine miles, at which distance it opens into a succession of small lakes at the base of the long range of mountains; bearing upwards in the same direction about two and a half miles more, the upper lake turns to the south, lies two miles trans-

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versely across the hill range, and contracts at the southern end into a narrow and rapid mountain brook. The Flat Bay Brook bears upwards in a south-easterly direction seven miles through an undulating country, when it intersects the mountain range, and maintains, in a narrow valley, the same bearing for about five miles, receiving many small tributary streams on either side. This stream is very rapid from its outlet to the mountains, but after entering the gorge the current becomes moderate, so far as has been ascended.

The Humber Arm and River.

The upper part of the Humber Arm, towards the mouth of the river, is very shallow over a large area, much of which becomes dry at low water; there is, however, a deep tortuous channel by which vessels can enter the stream, and there is very good anchorage outside, a little way westward of Broke's Landing Place.

The following are the bearings and distances of the river, exclusive of minor turns up its course, as far as surveyed.

1*st Course.*—From Broke's Landing Place to the head of the lower rapids at Station 9, S. 61° E., distance, 3 miles and 4 chains.

2*nd Course.*—From Station 9 to entrance into Deer Lake, N. 60° E., distance 8 miles and 63 chains.

3*rd Course.*—Deer Lake, from Governor's Point to head of lake N. 42° E., distance 15 miles and 7 chains.

4*th Course.*—Head of Deer Lake to forks of Grand Pond, N. 44° E., distance 5 miles and 14 chains.

5*th Course.*—From Grand Pond forks to Beaver Pond, N. 38° E., distance 4 miles and 12 chains.

6*th Course.*—From Beaver Pond to Great Bend, N. 56° E., distance 8 miles and 46 chains.

The first or lower course of the river passes through a narrow gorge, bounded on each side by lofty crags, which in some places rise almost perpendicularly to a height of over 1,000 feet, the whole body of this fine river being frequently pent up within a width of 60 feet. In this course the current is tolerably strong and the water deep; at the end of it there is a moderately strong rapid. The river widens above this rapid, and flows through a picturesque valley, again, however, contracting when within about a mile of the lower end of Deer Lake, where another rather strong rapid occurs, from whence to the Grand Pond branch the river is sluggish, wide—sometimes a quarter of a mile—and deep, accessible for boats of ordinary draught. Above the junction of the Grand Pond branch the stream becomes turbulent, the first rapid making a fall of 11 feet in 400 yards. It (the stream) continues more or less rapid, and often shallow and difficult of ascent for canoes all the way, except at two places, where it opens into what are called the Seal Pool and Beaver Pond, where the current is still, wide, and deep. Below the Great Bend—above which the stream turns up in a south-west course for a mile, and then curves again for a mile and a half in the prevailing north-eastern direction, where is found a vertical fall of 10 feet—there is a stretch of 2 miles where the current is moderate. The estimated rise above the level of the sea of the top of the fall just alluded to, is 90 feet. Above this fall, where the latest survey terminates, the course of the river is said to be north-east for 9 miles, westerly for some miles, and

finally south-westerly where it terminates at Adee's Pond, within about 12 miles from the head of Deer Lake, and about 20 miles from the eastern arm of Bonne Bay. The Surveyor only ascended the Grand Pond branch of the river for a distance of a mile, where the stream was found violently rapid, and although practicable for canoes all the way to the Grand Pond, was declared exceedingly difficult and dangerous. From the description of these rapids, the rise must be calculated at 38 feet, the Grand Pond will, therefore, be about 50 feet above the level of the sea.

I have endeavoured to be precise in describing the Humber River, and have therefore reported upon it at more than ordinary length, as I believe it to be little known even in the Island. Independently of the agricultural capabilities of the land in the vicinity of this magnificent river, the fine soil seems to present other inducements for industry and enterprise in the quality of the timber, much of which is excellent. Hundreds of square miles of country in the neighbourhood of this stream remain useless, which, for purposes of lumbering or farming is superior in most respects to the northern shores of Lake Huron and many parts of the Province of Ontario, which localities have been laid out in townships, and already partially settled. Water power to drive machinery is everywhere obtainable, either in the main river as on the upper part of the stream, or in the numerous brooks that fall into Deer Lake and the lower reaches.

Bays.

Bays.

The bays which indent the whole of the line of coast of Newfoundland are among the finest in the world. The principal of them are as follows, viz. Pistolet on the extreme north of the Island; Hare, Canada, White, and Notre Dame Bays, on the north-east; Bonavista, Trinity, and Conception Bays, on the east; Trepassey, St. Mary's, Placentia, Fortune, Hermitage, and D'Espoir* Bays, on the south; and Bay of Islands, St. George's, Bonne, and St. John Bays, on the west coasts respectively. These bays are in turn indented by countless minor bays, inlets, and harbours, far too numerous to mention. It is needless to dwell upon a geographical description of each of these large sheets of water. It is sufficient for ordinary practical purposes to observe that they carry the great arms of the Atlantic, laden with the finny treasure, many miles into the interior, and furnish water communication of inestimable value. The bays of the peninsula of Avalon are of course more known and frequented than those of the main portion of the Island, to which the peninsula is joined by a narrow strip of land 3 miles wide. This isthmus separates the two large bays of Placentia and Trinity, in the latter of which is situated the harbour of Heart's Content, where the Atlantic cable is landed, and from whence the land portion of the Atlantic telegraph is laid to Cape Ray.

Capes.

Capes.

The following are the principal capes of the Island, viz. Cape Bauld, situated at the extreme north; Partridge Point, which makes

* Erroneously called by many of the inhabitants of this Colony Bay Despair, a strange corruption from the original name bestowed upon it by the French, viz. Bay D'Espoir.

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the eastern boundary of the entrance to White Bay, North Bill and Cape St. John forming the northern extremity of Notre Dame Bay. The foregoing, with the exception of Cape Bauld, are situated on the north-east coast. The eastern capes are Capes Fogo, Freels, and Bonavista, the two latter forming the northern and southern extremities respectively of Bonavista Bay, North Head, and Grates Point, the northern and southern points of Trinity Bay, Split Point, and Cape St. Francis, which form the entrance to Conception Bay and Capes Spear and Broyle. Those to the south are Capes Race, Pine, St. Mary's Chapeau Rouge, and La Hune. On the west are found Capes Ray, Anguille, and St. George and Gregory, Point Rich, and Capes Feroll and Norman.

The Government of the Dominion of Canada has recently erected lighthouses on the following headlands of Newfoundland, viz. Cape Ray, Point Rich, and Cape Norman. A brief allusion to these lighthouses may not be here out of place.

A flashing light has been placed at Cape Ray, the flash showing every ten seconds; at a long distance, however, it has the appearance of a steady light, and in clear weather would probably be seen from a distance of 20 miles.

The illuminating apparatus is catoptric, or by reflectors.

The tower is an hexagonal-shaped wooden building, 41 feet high, painted white. Position, lat. 47° 37′ N., long. 59° 18′ W.

The light on Point Rich, north point of Ingnornachoix Bay, is a *flashing* white light, showing a flash *every fifteen* seconds, elevated 130 feet above the level of the sea, and, in clear weather, should be seen from a distance of 18 miles.

The illuminating apparatus is catoptric, or by reflectors.

The tower is 40 feet high, is hexagonal shaped, and painted white. Position, lat. 50° 42′ N., long. 57° 24′ W.

The light on Cape Norman, in the Strait of Belle Isle, is a *revolving* white light, showing a flash every two minutes, elevated 138 feet above the sea, and, in clear weather, should be seen from a distance of 20 miles.

The illuminating apparatus is catoptric, or by reflectors.

The tower, 40 feet high, is hexagonal shaped, and painted white. Position, lat. 51° 38′ N., long. 55° 54′ W.

With respect to the other lighthouses of Newfoundland, that on Cape Race is the most useful to transatlantic steamers, being situated in the track of most of the mail boats which run between Great Britain and Canada and the United States. This lighthouse was built by the Imperial Government, and exhibits a *revolving white* light. It is visible in clear weather 19 nautical miles to seaward from N.E. by E., round by the S.E. and S. to W. The light is elevated 180 feet above the mean water level. The tower is striped red and white vertically. Position, lat. 46° 39′ 30″ N., long. 53° 4′ 30″ W.

This promontory being constantly enveloped in fog, it has been determined, at the instance of the Governments of Great Britain, Canada, and Newfoundland, respectively, to place a powerful steam fog whistle at Cape Race, the machinery of which is now in St John's, but, owing to the lateness of the season, cannot be placed in position this year. I trust, however, that during the coming year the whistle will be erected and put in working order.

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I find some of the lighthouses of the Colony have been placed in extremely elevated positions. The highest of the lights are Dodding Head, Great Burin Island light, 430 feet above the sea level; Baccalien Island light, 443 feet above the level of the sea; Cape St. Mary's light, 300 feet above the level of the sea; and Brunet Island light, Mercer's Head, Fortune Bay, 408 feet high. The desirability of having lights placed at such elevations is questionable, when it is known that the tops of high headlands on this coast are constantly capped with fog, and the lights thereon invisible to vessels at sea, while less elevated places are discernible. I presume, however, that engineering difficulties determined the present elevated positions of the four last-named lighthouses. The reasons for not placing them in lower spots were, I have no doubt, fully considered by the local authorities before the lights were placed where they now stand.

Islands.

Islands.

The principal islands of Newfoundland are—Belle Isle, at the entrance to the straits of that name, on which is erected a lighthouse; Groais, Bell, and St. Barbe, or Horse Islands, off the north-east coast; New World Islands, in the Bay of Exploits; Change and Fogo Islands, to the north of Sir C. Hamilton Sound; Cattel's Island, in Bonavista Bay; Random Island, in Trinity Bay; Baccalieu Island, at the southern extremity of the entrance to Trinity Bay—there is a lighthouse on this island; Great and Little Belle Islands—the former celebrated for rich soil and excellent butter—in Conception Bay; Great and Little Colinet, in St. Mary's Bay; Merasheen and Red Island, in Placentia Bay; St. Pierre and Miquelon, belonging to the French, off the entrance to Fortune Bay; Brunet Island, in Fortune Bay; and the Penguin, Ramea, and Burgeo Islands, off the south coast; besides numerous other islands, reckoned by thousands, principally to be found in Notre Dame, Exploits, Bonavista, and Bonne Bays.

In addition to the islands to which I have referred as having lighthouses, a powerful *flashing white* light has been erected on Brunet Island, at Mercer's Head. The light burns at an elevation of 408 feet above the sea, and is visible in clear weather at a distance of 35 miles in every direction from N. round E. and S., to W.N.W. Mercer's Head is a bold headland, situated in lat. 47° 16′ N., and long. 55° 59′ 30″ W.

French island of St. Pierre.

With respect to the French island of St. Pierre, the entrance of the harbour called South Channel, since the 1st October, 1862, has been marked by two small fixed lights, one of which is white, illuminating three-fourths of the horizon, and placed on the battery; the other is a red light, on the plain at the north of the town. The white light has an elevation of 11 mètres, and is visible 6 miles. The red light is elevated 19 mètres, visible 3 miles distance. The line connecting these two lights indicates the middle channel.

The position of the red light has also been so determined that as soon as it is seen on the left of Cape Eagle, vessels coming from Columbia in beating into the N.E. entrance will have nothing to fear from the shoals of Cape Rouge.

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Chief Towns.

Chief Towns. St. Johns.

The chief town of Newfoundland is named St. Johns. It is situated on the east coast of the peninsula of Avalon, about 65 miles north of Cape Race, and 18 miles south of, Cape St. Francis, is built on the north side of the harbour of the same name, and contains a population of about 30,000 inhabitants. Position, lat. 43° 34′ N., long. 52° 42′ W. The principal street of St. Johns is Water Street, running parallel to the north side of the harbour somewhat more than a mile, containing well-constructed houses, and large and substantial stores, from which admirable wharves jut into the water, at which vessels of large tonnage can at all times safely moor. The houses and stores in this street are built of brick or stone; a law to that effect having been passed after the disastrous fire of 1846. Duckworth and Gower Streets run parallel to Water Street, on the side of a moderately steep incline, each of these three streets being equidistant. The other streets of the town intersect the three just named at right angles, most of the houses of which are still built of wood, yet the organization of excellent fire companies, and the introduction of a supply of water from a large lake distant 6 miles, and elevated 150 feet above the highest part of the town, should render the recurrence of an extensive conflagration as formerly devastated the city, an improbable, if not an impossible, event. The site of the town has been well selected, being on the side of a gradual ascent, the highest point of which, where the Roman Catholic Cathedral stands, is 225 feet above the level of the sea. Opposite the city, at the south side of the harbour, a lofty ridge of precipitous hills 700 feet high rise abruptly from the water's edge, and stretch for some miles into the interior. A small space at the base of these hills has been made available for building, and the merchants have erected three extensive warehouses and large vats for the manufacture of seal and cod oil. These stores and vats were formerly built on the north side in the town, but having been all destroyed by fire in 1846, their reconstruction was suggested on the south side of the harbour, where the premises and vats of each merchant are now distinct, a wise precaution, considering the inflammable nature of the article manufactured. The town contains some fine buildings, among which may be named the Episcopal and Roman Catholic Cathedrals, the Union and Commercial Banks, the Public Offices and Legislative Chambers, the Lunatic Asylum, and Government House.

A narrow gorge between two steep and rugged cliffs marks the entrance to the land-locked and crescent-shaped harbour of St. Johns, where good anchorage, deep water, and shelter from all winds afford vessels either at the wharves or at anchor an admirable haven of safety. The approach to the harbour is well lit by Cape Spear and the harbour light,* and vessels entering the harbour are guided through the narrows by the following arrangement. Two red lights are exhibited every night from sunset until sunrise, intended as leading marks for vessels entering the narrows; the lower light on the roof of the Custom House; the other, 400 yards in rear, on a white

* Built at Fort Amherst.

post, within a few yards of the Congregational Church, and 180 feet above the sea. These lights will be readily distinguished from any other lights in the town, and keeping them in a line bearing N.W. ¾ W. will lead in the largest vessel clear of all danger. To serve as leading marks also during the day, the pediment of the Custom House is painted white; this is to be kept in line with the upper lantern, also painted white. The distance from St. Johns, Newfoundland, to Liverpool, Great Britain, Valencia, Ireland, Quebec, and Halifax, Nova Scotia, is about 2000, 1640, 900, and 540 miles, respectively.

Harbour Grace.

The town of Harbour Grace, situated in the harbour of the same name in Conception Bay, ranks next in importance to St. Johns, contains a population of about 7,000, prospers under the enterprising speculations of a few wealthy merchants, and returns two members to the House of Assembly. The harbour affords safe anchorage to vessels of large tonnage, and the island of Harbour Grace at a short distance from the entrance, acts as a breakwater, and shelters the harbour from the furious north-east gales, which blow directly into it. On this island has been placed a light, visible 25 nautical miles, showing two white flashes, followed by one red flash; the interval between each flash attaining its greatest brilliancy being thirty seconds. Position, lat. 47° 42′ 45″ N., and long. 53° 8′ 5″ W.

A beacon stands on the point of beach at the entrance of Harbour Grace. It is a double light, as a distinction from Harbour Grace Island light, one being placed above the other, preserving that appearance for 6 miles, exceeding this distance up to 10 miles, the two lights appear blended into one. There is a bar at the entrance to the harbour in question, on which at low water there is not more than 8 feet of water. In sailing into the harbour with a fair or leading wind, by bringing the beacon to bear W. or W. by S., and by keeping the light or building a little on the starboard bow, vessels will clear the bar. Position of light, lat. 47° 41′ 28″ N., and long. 53° 12′ 33″ W.; elevation above the sea 40 feet.

Carbonear.

The town of Carbonear, built on a small harbour about 3 miles from Harbour Grace, contains a population of about 5,000 inhabitants.

Other Towns. Settlements.

Several other small towns are found in Conception Bay. These places are generally known in the Colony as "settlements." Those in the bay just mentioned are as follows, viz. Bay Roberts, Port-de-Grave, Brigus, Harbour Main, Holley Rood, Killegrew, Topsail, Broad Cove, Portugal Cove, and Bay de Verds. The settlements of Twillingate and Fogo are situated in Notre Dame Bay, Greenspond and Pool's Harbour. Pool's Harbour in Bonavista Bay, Catalina and Trinity in Trinity Bay, Trepassey and Portugal Cove in Trepassey Bay, St. Mary's and Colinet in St. Mary's Bay, Placentia and Burin in Placentia Bay, Grand Bank and Fortune in Fortune Bay, Great Jervis in Bay D'Espoir, Rose Blanche, Burgeo, and La Poile on the south coast, St. George's Bay on the west coast, in the bay of the same name, and on the east coast of the peninsula of Avalon, innumerable settlements have been built, of which the following are the principal: Punch Cove, Flat Rock, Torbay, Outer Cove, Middle Cove, Logie Bay, Quidy Vidy, Petty Harbour, Bay Bulls, Witless Bay, Toad Cove, Broyle Harbour, Caplin Bay, Ferryland,

Settlements in the vicinity of St. Johns.

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Aqua Forte, Fermouse, Renowes, and Chance Cove. The foregoing are within easy reach of St. Johns, and include almost all the places in the neighbourhood of the capital. I have, therefore, without reference to size, endeavoured to name all the inhabited localities near the chief town, as those to which the most importance is attached, while others situated in more remote parts of the Island, although perhaps larger than the specified settlements, have been omitted, as too numerous for insertion in this Report.

Population.

Population.

The population of the Island was estimated in 1804 to be 20,000. In 1814 nearly 7,000 people arrived; the inhabitants were then found to number 80,000 souls. In 1857 the population was 124,288. The last census, taken in 1869, gives 146,536 as the number of inhabitants, so that the increase in twelve years has been 22,248, or about 18½ per cent. during that period. Of the people 85,496 are Protestants and other denominations, except Roman Catholics; these number 61,040.

I append an abstract, Table A, of the Newfoundland census of 1869, showing an increase in the population since 1857 of over 18 per cent.

Climate.

Climate.

The climate of this Colony is insular, the temperature decidedly mild, but the weather extremely variable. The intense cold and the fierce heat of Canada and New Brunswick are unknown. The proximity of the Gulf Stream mitigates the severity of the climate to such an extent that, as a general rule, the thermometer seldom falls below zero in winter, and that for only a few hours; while in summer the heat is alleviated by the great Arctic current, which rushes down by Baffin's and Hudson's Bays along the American coast, carrying the cold waters of the north to supply the vacancy in the equatorial seas caused by the overflow of the Gulf Stream. Athough this cold current modifies the heat of summer, it retards the advent of spring; indeed it must be said that

"Winter lingering chills the lap of May;"

but ample compensation for the chills of spring and early summer is afforded by "the precious things of the deep," with which the Arctic current, sweeping along the coast of Newfoundland, is laden. To the combined influences of the Gulf Stream and the Arctic current are attributed the fogs which frequently envelop the coast of the peninsula of Avalon and the southern and south-western shores of the Island. These fogs exist principally during summer, owing to the more northerly set of the Gulf Stream during that period of the year. The warm waters of the stream are then poured on the south and south-west coasts of Newfoundland, raising vast volumes of steam, which extend as far north, as a rule, as Baccalieu, and are seen at sea like a huge wall of vapour, but never extend far inland; indeed frequently the mouths of the bays are enveloped in fog when the

Fogs.

TABLE A.

ABSTRACT of NEWFOUNDLAND CENSUS of 1869, showing INCREASE of POPULATION since 1857.

Names of Districts.	1869.	1857.	Religious Denominations, 1869.						
	Population.	Population.	Church of England.	Church of Rome.	Wesleyan Church.	Kirk of Scotland.	Free Kirk.	Congregational.	Baptists, &c. &c.
St. Johns East	17,204	17,352	3,654	11,247	1,606	176	282	239	—
*St. Johns West	11,646	13,124	2,080	8,760	534	115	92	63	2
Conception Bay: Harbour Main	6,542	5,386	1,442	4,982	118	—	—	—	—
Conception Bay: Port de Grave	7,536	6,489	3,224	1,910	2,397	2	8	5	—
Conception Bay: Harbour Grace	12,740	10,067	6,822	4,153	1,588	6	171	—	—
Conception Bay: Carbonear	5,633	5,233	895	2,368	2,367	—	3	—	—
Conception Bay: Bay de Verds	7,057	6,221	469	1,731	4,857	—	—	—	—
Trinity Bay	13,817	10,736	7,428	1,384	4,985	6	10	4	—
Bonavista Bay	11,560	8,850	7,029	2,420	2,094	7	1	9	—
Twillingate and Fogo	13,067	9,717	6,846	1,961	4,235	11	3	11	—
Ferryland	5,991	5,228	172	5,817	1	—	—	1	—
Placentia and St. Mary's	8,794	8,334	1,174	7,390	219	11	—	—	—
Burin	6,731	5,529	1,390	2,546	2,789	1	3	1	1
†Fortune Bay	5,233	3,493	3,935	1,290	6	—	—	—	2
Burgeo and La Poile	5,119	3,545	4,123	142	843	1	—	5	5
Electoral Districts	138,670	119,304	50,683	58,101	28,639	336	573	338	10
French Shore	5,387	3,334	2,698	2,466	186	37	—	—	—
Labrador	2,479	1,650	1,803	483	165	28	—	—	—
Total	146,536	124,288	55,184	61,050	28,990	401	573	338	10

* A large emigration and houses at the west end destroyed by fire are the principal causes of decrease in the population of St. Johns. It will be seen that the falling off in population is much greater in the western than in the eastern district of St. Johns.

† A large emigration has taken place during the past few years to Fortune Bay, chiefly from Placentia and St. Mary's.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

heads thereof bask in a bright sunshine. A north-east wind, however, quickly moves the fog inland, and often transforms a warm day in July, with the thermometer at 75° Fahr., into a bleak winter day, with the thermometer at 45° Fahr. I have had personal experience of several days such as I now describe. The northern portion of the Island is said to be quite free from fog.

Rainfall.

With respect to the annual amount of rainfall * in Newfoundland, I find, on referring to the "Tables of Aqueous Precipitation for Series of Years (B)," collected by the Smithsonian Institution, United States, and published in 1872, that the average fall of rain is reckoned at 58·30 inches. This calculation is based on observations touching the rainfall in Newfoundland taken in the years 1857, 1858, 1859, and 1861, the amount being respectively 62·09 inches, 41·09 inches, 66·99 inches, and 55·05 inches. I therefore consider that 58·30 inches may be assumed as a correct average rainfall for this Colony.

Prevailing winds.

The prevailing wind is from the south-west round by west to north-west and north. Winds in these directions are more or less constant throughout the year, except during the months of February and March, and sometimes April, when north-east winds are almost incessant.

Commencement of frost and snow.

No general rule can be offered as to the commencement and duration of frost and the quantity of snow, as of late years these phenomena have varied considerably. I say varied of late years, for, according to the statements of some of the old inhabitants, the Newfoundland winter commenced in November and lasted until April, and that each year the winter did not vary, but that within the last fifteen or twenty years the climate has greatly altered to a variable character, so that it is impossible to assume any month as the commencement of a particular season. My own experience tends to the belief that frost commences in December and lasts, with more or less severity, until the end of March, occasionally broken by southerly winds, bringing warm days, and that the greatest quantity of snow falls during the month of February. The climate of the Island is variable, not only with respect to sudden changes which take place during the twenty-four hours at each season of the year, but also with respect to different localities on the same parallel of latitude. As an exemplification of this fact, the climate of Green Island and that of St. George's Bay, on the east and west coast respectively, although on nearly the same parallel of latitude, will on comparison be found to vary considerably. An isothermal line drawn westward from the former locality would pass far to the north of St. George's Bay, where the large growth of trees affords substantial proof of the mildness of the temperature as compared with that of Green Island. Before quitting this subject, I would observe

Climate healthy.

that the climate of Newfoundland is exceedingly healthy. The robust and healthy appearance of the people, and the advanced ages which many of them attain, testify to the purity and the excellence of the air which they inhale, and to the invigorating qualities of the breezes of British North America. Tables B and C herewith

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* Meteorological observations are now regularly taken in St. Johns, Newfoundland, and will henceforward be recorded.

appended afford statistical information as to the climate of Newfoundland for the past ten months of the present year. NEWFOUNDLAND.

TABLE B.

TABLE of METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS taken at ST. JOHNS, NEWFOUNDLAND, for the first ten months of the year 1872.

METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Abstract of meteorological observations, taken at St. Bonaventure's College, for the month ending 31st January, 1872. Lat. 47° 34′ 30″ N. Long. 52° 39′ 43″ W. 220 feet above sea level.

Barometer.

Mean pressure corrected	29·752 inches.
Maximum „	30·556 „
Minimum „	28·934 „
Mean daily range corrected	·52 „
Maximum „	·690 „
Minimum „	·028 „

Thermometer.

Mean temperature	25° 4′
Maximum „	44° 5′
Minimum „	3° 5′
Mean maximum temperature	32° 2′
Mean minimum „	18° 9′
Rain and melted snow	4·290 inches.
Depth of snow which fell during the month	7 „
Number of days of fog	9
Auroras partially seen	4 nights.
Solar halos	1
Lunar „	4
Mean of cloud	6·1

The month ushered in with a westerly wind, and was very variable; the prevailing wind was from the S. and S.S.W., with the exception of a couple of days of a north-easter.

Abstract of meteorological observations taken at St. Bonaventure's College, for the month ending 29th February, 1872. Lat. 47° 34′ 30″ N. Long. 52° 39′ 43″ W. 220 feet above sea level.

Barometer.

Mean pressure corrected	29·642 inches.
Maximum „	30·397 „
Minimum „	28·840 „
Mean daily range corrected	·212 „
Maximum „	·822 „
Minimum „	·009 „

Thermometer.

Mean temperature	24° 5′
Maximum „	38°
Minimum „	3°
Mean maximum	29°
Mean minimum	18° 5′

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Rain and melted snow	7·72 inches.
Depth of snow which fell during the month	26·20 „
Number of days of fog and haze	14
Auroras partially seen	4 nights.
Solar halos	3
Lunar „	6
Mean of cloud	6·5
Mean velocity of wind	2·5

Prevailing winds, S.S.W. and W.S.W.

Abstract of meteorological observations taken at St. Bonaventure's College, for the month ending 31st March, 1872. Lat. 47° 34′ 30″ N. Long. 52° 39′ 43″ W. 220 feet above sea level.

Barometer.

Mean pressure for month corrected	29·654 inches.
Maximum „ on the 27th „	30·288 „
Minimum „ „ 18th „	27·901 „
Mean daily range „ 18th „	1·804 „
Minimum „ „ 31st „	·019 „
Mean of daily range for month	·286 „

Thermometer.

Mean maximum temperature for month	32° 8′
Mean minimum „ „	19° 5′
Maximum	45° 0′
Minimum	4°
Maximum daily range	24°
Minimum „	1°
Depth of snow on surface for month	70·502 inches.
Melted snow and rain	10·400 „
Number days of fog	10
„ „ Solar halos seen	8
„ „ Lunar „	6
Mean of cloud	9·5
Prevailing winds, N.N.E. and E.	
Wind, mean of force	2·5

On the 18th a snow-storm set in about 2½ p.m., and raged with great force till 5½ p.m., when it began to moderate, and became quite calm at 7½ p.m.; at 9½ p.m. wind set in to the N.W., and began to blow, increasing in strength as the night advanced, until it reached a strong gale, and continued blowing all the following day without intermission.

Abstract of meteorological observations taken at St. Bonaventure's College, for the month ending 30th April, 1872. Lat. 47° 34′ 30″ N. Long. 52° 39′ 43″ W. 220 feet above sea level.

Barometer.

Mean pressure corrected for 32° Far.	29·810 inches.
Maximum „ „ „	30·259 „
Minimum „ „ „	28·880 „
Mean daily range	·144 „
Maximum „	·483 „
Minimum „	·002 „

Thermometer.

Mean temperature for month	35° 5
Maximum temperature on the 12th	50° 5
Minimum „ „ 20th	22° 1
Mean maximum temperature	40° 7
Mean minimum „	30° 4
Maximum daily range	17° 0
Minimum „	2° 5
Depth of rain and melted snow in inches for month	5·87 inches.
Depth of snow on surface	9·50 „
Number days of fog	14
Lightning, night of the 3rd	1
Auroras	5
Solar halos	14
Lunar „	6
Mean of Cloud	7·0

Prevailing wind for month was from the N.E. and E., with exception of a few days we had it from the S. and S.W.

Abstract of meteorological observations for the month of May, 1872.

Barometer.

Mean pressure for month corrected	30·043 inches.
Maximum „ „	30·456 „
Minimum „ „	29·630 „
Greatest daily range „	·483 „
Least „ „	·036 „

Thermometer.

Mean temperature for month	49° 8
Maximum „ „	70° 0
Minimum „ „	24° 5
Greatest daily range „	29° 5
Least „ „	3° 0
Depth of rain and melted snow in inches	8·61
Depth of snow on surface the 10th	3·00
Mean of cloud for month	7·1
Relative humidity	79

Solar halos seen on 17 days; Lunar halos on 3 nights; Auroras on 7 nights; Fog on 13 days.—Thermometer in sun at 3 P.M., on the 29th, 110°.

Prevailing winds for month—South, North-West; East and South-Easterly.

Abstract of meteorological observations for the month ending 30th June, 1872.

Barometer.

Mean pressure corrected for 32 Far. and for mean sea level	30·038 inches.
Maximum pressure corrected for 32 Far. and for mean sea level	30·552 „

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Minimum pressure corrected for 32 Far. and for mean sea level	29·562 inches.
Greatest daily range corrected for 32 Far. and for mean sea level	·345 „
Least daily range corrected for 32 Far. and for mean sea level	·002 „

Thermometer.

Mean temperature for the month	51° 3
Maximum temperature for the month on the 30th	78° 0
Minimum temperature for the month on the 27th	37° 0
Mean maximum temperature for the month	59° 6
Mean minimum temperature for the month	42° 8
Rain-fall during the month	5·5 inches.
Fog on	9 days.
Solar halos on	9 „
Lunar halos on	3 nights.
Auroras partially seen on	5 „
Mean of cloud, scale from 0 to 10	5·5
Mean of ozone „ „	1·6
Mean of Humidity „ 0 to 100	60

Prevailing wind for the month—Easterly.

Abstract of meteorological observations for the month ending 31st July, 1872.

Barometer.

Mean of daily pressure corrected for temperature and sea level	29·870 inches.
Maximum, 30th „	30·199 „
Minimum, 1st	29·623 „
Maximum daily range on 1st	·300 „
Minimum „ „ on 30th	·065 „

Thermometer.

Mean temperature for month	59° 6
Mean maximum for month	68° 6
Mean minimum	50° 6
Maximum on the 1st	79° 0
Minimum on the 3rd	40° 5
Maximum daily range	36° 0
Minimum daily range	7° 5
Mean of cloud	5·8
Mean of ozone	2·9
Mean of evaporation	·04
Auroras on	4 nights.
Fog on	6 days.
Solar halos on	7 „
Lunar halos on	2 „

Thunder and lightning on the 5th, 15th, 16th, 26th, and 31st.
Two heavy showers of hailstones on 26th, at 12.30, and 4.30 P.M.
Total amount of rain-fall for month 6·170 inches.
Prevailing wind for month—S. W. and W.

Meteorological observations for the month ending 31st August, 1872.

Barometer.

Mean of daily pressure corrected for temperature and sea level	30·010 inches.
Maximum „	30·376 „
Minimum „	29·462 „
Maximum daily range	·450 „
Minimum „ „	·052 „

Thermometer.

Mean temperature for month	58° 5
Mean maximum for month	66° 4
Mean minimum	50° 6
Maximum on the 10th	78° 0
Minimum on the 31st	42° 0
Maximum daily range	23° 0
Minimum daily range	2° 0
Mean of cloud	5·6
Mean of ozone	2·0
Auroras on	6 nights.
Solar halos on	8 days.
Lunar halos on	3 nights.
Number of days of fog	3
Amount of rain in inches for month	4·86 inches.
Mean velocity of wind	1·6

Prevailing wind for month—S.E. by E.

Meteorological observations for the month ending 30th September, 1872.

Barometer.

Mean of daily pressure corrected for temperature and sea level	30·575 inches.
Maximum, on the 25th	30·388 „
Minimum „ 19th	29·375 „
Maximum daily range on 26th	·886 „
Minimum „ 30th	·072 „
Mean of daily range for month	·142 „

Thermometer.

Mean temperature for month	56° 3
Mean maximum for month	63° 7
Mean minimum	48° 8
Maximum on the 27th	76′
Minimum „ 25th	35°
Maximum daily range	16″
Minimum	3°
Mean of cloud	3·5
Mean of ozone	2·8
Auroras on	6 nights.
Lunar halos on	3 „
Solar halos on	7 days.
Number of days of fog	6 „
Amount of rain in inches for month	4·24 inches.
Mean of evaporation	0·3 „
Mean velocity of wind	1·5 „

Prevailing wind for month, W.S.W. and N.E.

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.Meteorological observations for the month ending 31st October, 1872.

Barometer.

Mean of daily pressure corrected for temperature and sea level	30·039 inches.
Maximum, on the 18th	30·477 „
Minimum „ 4th	29·434 „
Maximum daily range on 19th	·485 „
Minimum „ 12th	·065 „
Mean of daily range for month	·214 „

Thermometer.

Mean temperature for month	49° 9
Mean maximum for month	54° 8
Mean minimum	42° 7
Maximum on the 8th	67′
Minimum on the 29th	29° 5′
Maximum daily range	14°
Minimum	2°
Mean of cloud	5·3
Mean of ozone	1·6
Auroras on	4 nights.
Lunar halos on	2 „
Solar halos on	6 days.
Number of days of fog	13
Number of days of rain	11
Amount of rain in inches for month	9·65 inches.
Mean of evaporation	1·5
Mean of velocity of wind	1·4

Prevailing wind for month, S.S.E. and W.

TABLE C.

TABLE compiled from the foregoing RECORD of METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, showing AMOUNT OF RAINFALL, the NUMBER OF DAYS OF SOLAR HALOS, the NUMBER OF NIGHTS OF LUNAR HALOS, and the NUMBER OF NIGHTS OF AURORAS during each of the FIRST TEN MONTHS of 1872, with TOTALS for the whole of that period.

Names of the Months.	Amount of rain in inches.	Number of days of fog.†	Number of days solar halos.	Number of nights lunar halos.	Number of nights of auroras.
January	*4·290	9	1	4	4
February	*7·72	14	3	6	4
March	*10·400	10	8	6	—
April	*5·87	14	14	6	5
May	*8·61	13	17	3	7
June	5·5	9	9	3	5
July	6·170	6	7	2	4
August	4·860	3	8	3	6
September	4·24	6	7	3	6
October	9·65	13	6	2	4
Total	67·31	97	80	38	45

* Including, during the first five months of the year, *melted snow.*

† These observations, it should be considered, are taken from St. Johns, in the Peninsula of Avalon, where fogs prevail more than in any other part of the island. The number of days of fog on the west would not exceed probably thirty for the period in question.

Agricultural Capabilities.

Although Newfoundland cannot be considered to possess the characteristics which would entitle it to be classified as a fertile country, its agricultural capabilities are far greater than are usually assigned to it. A comparison of the reasons from which unfavourable opinions have been deduced respecting the soil of the island, with those from which an opposite inference might be derived, will, I think, show that the premises from which the former conclusion is drawn are insufficient, while the latter view may be arrived at without speculating too freely on unknown data. In other words, I do not consider that because three-fourths of the inhabitants are concentrated for fishing purposes on the peninsula of Avalon, the most barren part of the island, in which the climate is least favourable for agriculture, and because the greater portion of the remainder of the people reside for a similar purpose on the narrow strip of coast line, which forms the inhabited portion of the Colony, the interior of which still remains almost unknown, an opinion unfavourable to the agricultural capabilities of the whole island should be inferred, when, on the other hand, those explorers who have visited portions of the interior affirm that the soil is capable of high cultivation, and presents an appearance far more compatible with tillage than the boulders and stunted vegetation of the coast. Parts of the island recently visited up the Exploits River and along the banks of the Humber River, have been found to possess qualities conformable with husbandry; the land at the heads of the several bays has long been known to be well adapted for farming operations, and this adaptation increases as the interior is approached. It is therefore from these data not unreasonable to suppose that in the unknown centre of the island will be found soil not uncongenial to agricultural undertakings. In speaking of the good qualities of the land in the foregoing respect, I do not refer to the island as a whole, as it is well known that a large portion of it is composed of marshy land. I allude chiefly to countless detached spots found upon the margin of the numerous lakes and streams. The area of these spots added together would amount to many millions of acres. Some idea of this extent may be gathered from the fact that in one locality on the Humber River over 75,000 acres of excellent land are available for agricultural operations.

It is not my present intention to touch further on the reasons which induce thoughtful and intelligent men not to look unfavourably upon an agricultural future for Newfoundland. I trust sincerely that their predictions may be more than realized, and that when a proper topographical examination of the island has been made, sufficient inducements will be found to tempt the Government to construct good roads into the interior, and transform at least into an auxiliary to other industry what now lies a trackless waste.

With respect to products of the Colony, potatoes, turnips, cabbages, peas, beans, and indeed all vegetables which grow in England arrive at the highest state of perfection in Newfoundland. Of cereals, its barley and oats will not suffer by comparison with the produce of Nova Scotia, and even wheat can be ripened in spots, though (as a rule) not as a profitable crop. As regards fruit, currants, straw-

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berries, gooseberries, and cherries, with other fruits, grow in the gardens, and countless species of berries are found in great profusion throughout the country.

Respecting the agricultural capabilities of one locality over others, I consider the western portion of the island to bear the palm. Here is fertile soil, and a climate far superior to the eastern or southern coast. It is much to be regretted that this fine region is only at present occupied by some straggling settlers, too poor and too ignorant to take advantage of its rich resources, and that while thousands of the fishermen can obtain only a precarious subsistence along the other shores, they persist in clinging to barren rocks, when the fertile west vainly invites them to wealth and comfort. I learn that the aspect of this country is beautiful, as seen from seaward, being clothed to the water's edge with a thick growth of the various kinds of hardwood, and the land generally, in its most prominent features, resembling that on the adjacent island of Cape Breton. Between the Great and Little Codroy Rivers is a vast tract containing nearly 100,000 acres, the whole consisting of rich loam capable of the highest degree of cultivation, and fit for the production of any description of crop. Timber of the most valuable kind covers the whole tract; birch trees, from 5 to 7 feet in circumference, grow close to the shore, and a much larger growth inland. To the northward is an immense range of hilly ground admirably adapted for grazing. About 35 miles to the north of Codroy is the fine Bay of St. George. The soil round the bay, and along the banks of the river of the same name, is rich and deep, and well adapted for all purposes of cultivation. It is calculated that the extent of cultivable land in this locality,—when its splendid herring, salmon, cod, and smelt fishery are taken into consideration—is capable of supporting 150,000 people—more than the whole population of the island. Fine timber is found here—birch, pine, spruce, larch—large enough for house and ship-building purposes, and in quantities sufficient to become an article of export. Further north, the Bay of Islands, into which the Humber River empties itself, is surrounded by land possessing equally good qualities. It is estimated that about 200,000 persons could in this neighbourhood be maintained with comfort. Fog is rarely seen, and the cold easterly winds are never felt, so that the climate, as compared with other parts of the island, is much ameliorated. Mr. Murray, of the Geological Survey, visited this bay in 1867, and says, by a rough measurement of this tract of country upon the plan,—there would be an area of about 429 square miles, or 250,000 acres, the greater portion of which is well adapted for raising almost every kind of agricultural produce. It is not necessary to describe each particular locality on the western shore. The whole of that favoured region is alike in respect to fertile qualities. This rich and extensive country invites the operations of the industrious agriculturist and the sturdy lumberer, while underneath the surface the miner will find abundant treasures.

Geology.

Geology.

For some years past Mr. Murray, the geologist, has been engaged in making a survey of the country, and has succeeded in obtaining

NEWFOUNDLAND.

such information respecting the true structure and distribution of the geological formations of Newfoundland as now enable me to offer a brief sketch of its geology. It appears that all the great ancient rock systems between the Lower Laurentian and the coal measures are more or less represented at one part or another of Newfoundland. The following column is the descending order of the different series that have been recognized.

1. Carboniferous.
2. Devonian.
3. Upper Silurian.
4. Lower Silurian.
5. Primordial Silurian.
6. Huronian or Cambrian.
7. Upper Laurentian.
8. Lower Laurentian.

The lowest of these systems appears to constitute the principal mountain ranges of the island, coming to the surface through the more recent deposits, on the axes of anticlinal lines, or brought out by great dislocations, most of which are nearly parallel with each other in a general bearing of about N.N.E. and S.S.W. The Laurentian gneiss of the Long Range, on the western side of the island, extends in a nearly straight line from Cape Ray to the head waters of the Castor on the great northern peninsula. These rocks are exhibited in the ranges which occupy the coast from Cape Ray to La Poile, from Grand Pond to Red Indian Pond bearing towards Hall's Bay, and in those ranges found in the vicinity of Burgeo, Cape La Hune, Connaigre, Bay East Brook, and Bay d'Espoir; but as that central part is still unexplored, it would be premature to advance as a certainty that that gneiss is of Laurentian age. Another great granatic and gneissoid belt is found at the head of Placentia Bay, bearing towards Clode Sound in Bonavista Bay, and continuing towards the mouth of the Gambo in Freshwater Bay, and thence by the northern shore of the first-named bay to Cape Freels, the gneiss is further developed in the Island of Fogo. Still, another such range comes up in the District of Ferryland, forming a nucleus to that part of the peninsula of Avalon, and showing itself occasionally on the coast between Holyrood and Manuel's Brook in Conception Bay.

On the western flank of the Long Range, on the upper part of the Great Codroy River, large fragments of white crystalline limestone with graphite are met with, and towards the north-east, on the same range, the occurrence of Labradorite and other crystalline rocks, with masses of magnetic iron, is suggestive of the probability that Upper Laurentian strata are partially exhibited there. In the peninsula of Avalon the crystalline rocks of the Laurentian period are succeeded by a set of slates, with conglomerate bonds, dioxites, quatrites, and alternating green and reddish, hard silicious and clay slates, surmounted by a great mass of thick-bedded green and red sandstone, the latter passing into a moderately coarse conglomerate, with many pebbles of red jasper at the top. These are the "lower slates" and "Signal Hill" sandstones of Mr. Jukes. They occupy by far the greater portion of the whole peninsula of Avalon, being again and again repeated there by a succession of wave-like undulations. Evidences of denudation and reconstruction are visible in Conception Bay, where, on the axis of the great anticlinal, the rocks of the intermediate system have been ground down to the Laurentian gneiss,

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and, subsequently, the submarine valley thus formed, have been filled up with a new set of sediments, the remains of which are still to be found skirting the shores of the bay, and forming the islands in its midst. The unconformable rocks of Conception Bay have been pronounced by Mr. Billing to be typical of the primordial age; it is towards the summit of the section that the organism begins to assume somewhat of the aspect of the Lower Potsdam. The group is repeated under similar circumstances in Trinity Bay, St. Mary's Bay, and Placentia Bay; with the exception that there is a greater mass of sandstone at the base in Trinity than in Conception Bay, in which no fossils have been hitherto found. The variegated slates which are concealed below the waters in Conception Bay, are largely displayed between the Bays of St. Mary and Placentia, and are in some parts crowded with *Paradoxides.* The thickness of the accumulation in Conception Bay was estimated in Mr. Murray's Report of 1868 at 3·800 feet. The lower limestones of the Humber River, which rest upon Laurentian gneiss, and which run out on the north side of St. George's Bay, may probably prove to be pre-Potsdam. The calciferous formation is marked by the fossils in Canada and Hare Bays on the east side of the Island, and on the western side is displayed along the coast from Port au Port to Cape Norman. Rocks of Upper Silurian age are indicated at Sop's Arm in White Bay by the presence of *Favosites gothlandica* and other characteristic fossils. The carboniferous series occupies a large area in the vicinity of Grand Pond and in St. George's Bay. It appears from the observations of the geologist, that while the ancient Laurentian continent was long submerged on the eastern side of the Island, on which the intermediate system was deposited, it was not until towards the primordial, or perhaps the Potsdam epoch, that it began to subside on the western side; and these subsidences had continued with many intermediate oscillations and interruptions, until a comparatively late date in the carboniferous era. The foregoing remarks will, I fear, not convey even an imperfect sketch of the geological history of Newfoundland, owing altogether to the vast tract of country which still remains unexplored. At best, they can only be looked upon as statements of facts gleaned from reports on such portions of the island as have been geologically surveyed.

Mineralogical Resources.

Mineralogy.

Within the past eight years satisfactory evidence has been afforded as to the existence in Newfoundland of valuable mineral deposits. The testimony pointing to such a conclusion has been supplied by Mr. Murray's survey, which has furnished most reliable information respecting the mineral resources of the country, and has been instrumental in attracting the attention of capitalists by the valuable knowledge which it has disseminated. The following are the principal metals observed at various localities:—Copper, lead, nickel, silver, iron and gold. With respect to the latter metal, a small specimen of

Gold.

quartz, with minute specks of what appeared to be gold, was found by Mr. Fitzgerald, who some years ago was engaged in sinking a copper lode, near Holyrood, in Conception Bay.

Indications of copper have been noticed in many parts of the island,

particularly in the neighbourhood of Notre Dame Bay, where at Tilt Cove, a valuable copper mine called the "Union Mine," belonging to Messrs. C. F. Bennett and Smith McKay, is now in operation. Within the last few years a rich vein of nickel has been discovered in the progress of the working of this mine, from which it is said that, in the year 1868, no less than 8,000 tons of copper ore, the value of which was about 64,000*l.* sterling, were shipped. Subsequently the value of copper having deteriorated in the United Kingdom the shipments from this mine were diminished, and a number of the workmen were in consequence discharged. The miners, however, are now again employed, owing to increase in the price of copper at home, and the mine still yields an ample supply. I learn with pleasure that, during the year 1871, a large quantity of copper and no small amount of nickel were shipped from Tilt Cove. Mr. Murray having surveyed this mine, says it would be difficult to imagine a place more conveniently situated in all respects for the commencement of mining operations than this at Tilt Cove. The lofty vertical cliffs which rise on either side gave unmistakable evidence of the presence of mineral wherever it exists, which, were the grounds of a more rounded or gentle character, would necessarily be more or less concealed. The rock with which the ore is immediately associated, appears to be a chloritic slate, very ferruginous, with seams of serpentine, and having huge intercalated masses of hard, compact greenish grey crystalline rock. Before the opening of this mine, Tilt Cove was inhabited by about a dozen fishermen's families; now there is a population of at least 1,200, and it is become one of the most prosperous settlements in the Colony. The whole region south of Tilt Cove is metalliferous; and for miles the coast is occupied by the holders of mining licences. Indications of copper are also found in Placentia Bay, Fortune Bay, and numerous localities on the coast; but it appears that the great mining region will extend from Notre Dame Bay right through the Island to St. George's Bay, as there is reason to believe that the serpentine rock with which the ore is associated, is developed in this direction.

Copper.

Tilt Cove Mine.

Nickel.

Respecting silver, indications of that ore have been recently found near Port-au-Port, on the west side of the island.

Silver.

With regard to lead, I gather from the numerous indications presented at different parts of the country, and in different geological positions of the presence of lead ore, that we may fairly infer it will, in process of time, become an important material among the economic resources of the island. Traces of this metal have been observed in the vicinity of Deer Lake, at Parrody's Head, near the head of Bay d'Espoir, in Conception Bay, between Topsail Head and Portugal Cove, and recently the same ore has been found in veins intersecting the slates and sandstones in the immediate vicinity of St. Johns, and in many other spots in the island.

Lead.

Some beautiful specimens of magnetic iron have been procured from the neighbourhood of Flat Bay Brook, at the Caireo Mountain, which judging from the quantity distributed over the surface of the ground, is probably derived from a large and important mass in that locality. The rocks with which the ore seems to be associated are of an opaque white colour, for the most part being chiefly composed of

Magnetic iron.

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white orthoclose felspar with quartz, in a small proportion and Labradorite.

Chromic iron. Among the most prominent and important of the ores observed in the magnesian rocks of the interior is chromic iron, was found to be present more or less, wherever the rocks were exposed—during Mr. Murray's survey, 1870—either generally disseminated through the matrix, or occurring in small boulders or pebbles scattered along the surface of the ground.

Cobalt. The presence of cobalt which usually accompanies the rocks of the Quebec group, although not yet actually proved by chemical experiment, may be fairly inferred.

Building-stones. Granite, sandstone, limestone, whetstones, black and white. Building stones are found in great abundance in Newfoundland. Among them may be named, granite, sandstone, and limestone, also limestone for burning, and whetstones, black and white.

Granite. Granite of a very coarse dark-red colour occupies the coast for some distance near La Poile. A finer-grained quality of granite is found to intersect the coarse mass, sometimes of a red, and at other times of a whitish grey colour. The coarse variety is very hard and tough, which, combined with its durability, would doubtless have a grand and imposing effect in large and massive structures. A beautiful variety of granite is found at Rose Blanche, where there is an excellent harbour, about 12 miles west of La Poile. The colour of the rock is of a whitish grey, it is rather fine-grained, and is constituted of white quartz, with felspar and brown mica. Blocks of this granite are easily procurable, in almost any requisite size, all along the shore, and in an inexhaustible qnantity.

Sandstones. Sandstones, a good material for building, may be procured in ample abundance at Kelly's Island in Conception Bay. The stone is of greenish tinge, weathering sometimes yellowish; some beds are very hard and difficult to dress with the hammer, others are freer in the grain and dress with facility. Admirable building stone is ob tainable in many parts of the island from the sandstones of the carboniferous rocks.

Limestone. Whetstone. Slates. Limestone and whetstone are found in various parts of the island, and roofing slates may be placed as a natural production of this Island. Judging from the quality of specimens which were brought from Smith's Sound in Trinity Bay, and the thickness of strata attributed to their place in the formation, together with their proximity to the sea, these slates, when fully developed, can hardly fail to prove of very considerable importance to our commerce.

Marbles. With respect to marbles, various kinds occur in parts of the Bay of Islands. The cliffs, at the entrance to the Humber River, yield white, black, and variegated red and white limestone, a large portion of which can be used for many ornamental purposes. At a place called Cook's Cove on the south side of the Humber Arm, a fine specimen of jet black marble has been obtained. The fossiliferous limestone of Topsail Head, Conception Bay, takes a high polish, and affords a handsome description of variegated marble.

Coal. That coal exists over a large area on the western side of the Island has been ascertained beyond a doubt, and this must be reckoned as an exceedingly valuable discovery. The carboniferous formation there occupies three distinct areas, which Mr. Murray

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classes as the St. George's trough, the Port-au-Port trough, and the Inland trough of Humber River and Grand Pond. Thirty years ago Professor Jukes ascertained the existence of coal in the neighbourhood of St. George's Bay, and in 1868 Professor Bell, of Canada, visited the spot and found a fine workable seam of coal.

Mr. Murray has calculated that the area of this solitary seam, even supposing there were no others to be found, is 38 square miles; and allowing a thickness of three feet, there would be 54,720,000 chaldrons of coal. It is not to be supposed that the whole of this is accessible, but there can be no doubt that much of it is within working depth. The proximity of this splendid coalfield to Canada, and the facilities it presents for coaling passing steamers, need not be hinted at. The few statements which I have just made respecting the mineralogy of Newfoundland, and a consideration of the fact that, during the past few years proofs as to the existence of valuable mineral deposits have multiplied so rapidly, will, I trust, not be considered unreasonable grounds on which to base an affirmation that the Island is destined to become one of the world's great mining regions.

Petroleum.

In concluding this subject, I have to add that petroleum was reported in 1866 as existing on Middle Point, Port-au-Port, and that since then a sample of oil has been procured from the spot by Mr. C. F. Bennett. Petroleum has recently been said to have been discovered in the neighbourhood of Bonne Bay.

Fauna and Flora.

Fauna and Flora.

Mr. W. E. Cormack, who, in 1822, attended by a single Micmac Indian, crossed the Island from Trinity Bay to St. George's Bay, has written a short narrative of his adventurous journey, and, speaking of the fauna of Newfoundland, states as follows: "I found the brooks and lakes of the basin of the interior inhabited by beavers, and stocked with vast flocks of wild geese and ducks, curlew, snipe, bittern, and loons," but I cannot do better (in adding "ptarmigan," —which abound in many parts of the island—to the foregoing list) than append an extract from an excellent paper on "Newfoundland as it is," written by the Rev. Mr. Harvey, of St. Johns, and published in "Stewart's Quarterly Magazine," of October, 1869, in which the fauna and flora of the country are touched upon. The extract is based upon the narrative of the journey now referred to.

"It must be remembered that these statements regarding the soil and minerals of Newfoundland refer merely to the comparatively small strips around the shores, which have been explored. But what of the unknown and unexplored interior that must be little short of 400 miles in length and 250 in breadth! All that is known of this great region is to be gathered from the short narrative of W. E. Cormack, Esq., a Scotchman, who, in 1822, attended by a single Micmac Indian, crossed the Island, from Random Sound in Trinity Bay to St. George's Bay. This adventurous journey was performed amid great perils and hardships, and the feat of the daring traveller had never been repeated by a white man. The narrative of his journey is very brief, but is deeply interesting. The difficulties may be judged of from the fact that he spent four months of incessant toil in accom-

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plishing his undertaking; and only a man of iron nerves and unflinching courage could have performed the task. He and his attendant Indian took almost no provisions with them, and supported themselves on the game they were able to bring down with their guns, encamping each night in the Indian fashion. During the first ten days of the journey they struggled on through dense forests of pine, fir, birch, and larch, at intervals crossing marshes of peat covered with grasses, rushes, etc., their course being due west, and a constant ascent from the coast. In some of these marshes the *Kalmia Augustifolia* covers whole acres, presenting a most brilliant appearance: and in the woods, the jay, the *Corvus Canadensis*, the titmouse and woodpecker were heard, and the loud notes of the loon made the lakes musical at night. At length the dense black forest was left behind, and the travellers found themselves on the summit of a great ridge, covered with scattered trees, reindeer moss, and loaded with partridge and whortle berries. Coveys of grouse rose in all directions, and snipe from every marsh. The birds of passage, ducks, and geese were flying to and fro from their breeding places in the interior; tracks of deer, of wolves fearfully large, of bears, foxes, and martins, were seen everywhere. The scene on looking back towards the sea-coast was magnificent. 'In the westward,' says the enthusiastic explorer, 'to our inexpressible delight, the interior broke in 'sublimity before us. What a contrast did this present to the con-'jectures entertained of Newfoundland! The hitherto mysterious 'interior lay unfolded before us, a boundless scene, emerald surface, 'a vast basin. The eye strides again and again over a succession of 'northerly and southerly ranges of green plains, marbled with woods 'and lakes of every form and extent, a picture of all the luxurious 'scenes of national cultivation, receding into invisibleness. The ima-'gination hovers in the distance, and clings involuntarily to the 'undulating horizon of vapour, far into the west, until it is lost. A 'new world seemed to invite us onward, or rather we claimed the 'dominion, and were impatient to proceed to take possession. Primi-'tiveness, omnipotence, and tranquillity were stamped upon every-'thing so forcibly that the mind is hurled back thousands of years. 'Our view extended more than forty miles in all directions. No 'high land bounded the low interior to the west. We now descended 'into the bosom of the interior. The plains which shone so brilliantly 'are steppes or savannas, in the form of extensive, gentle undulating 'beds stretching northward and southward, with running waters and 'lakes, skirted with woods lying between them. There, yellow-'green surfaces are sometimes uninterrupted by either tree, shrub, 'rocks, or any inequality, for more than ten miles. They are che-'quered everywhere upon the surface by deep beaten deer paths, and 'are, in reality, magnificent natural deer parks, adorned by woods 'and water. The deer herd on them in countless numbers to graze. 'It is impossible to describe the grandeur and richness of the scenery, 'which will probably remain long undefaced by the hand of man.' It took the traveller nearly a month to cross this great savanna country, on which but one solitary mountain rises, named after his Indian, Mount Sylvester. Throughout the whole extent innumerable deer paths were observed, the only species of deer being the Caribou, a

variety of the reindeer, but much finer than that which Norway or Lapland can boast. Some were brought down by their guns, weighing six or seven hundred pounds weight, the venison being excellent, and the fat on the haunches two inches in thickness. Many thousands of these noble deer were met on their periodical migration. In the spring, they disperse over the mountains and barren tracks in the west and north-west division of the interior, to bring forth and rear their young amidst the profusion of lichens and mountain herbage; and when the first frosts of October nip the mountain herbage, they turn towards the south and east. And so these countless herds of reindeer have, for thousands of years, traversed the interior, undisturbed by the sight of man. Cormack says, 'Were the agriculturists of the coast to come here, they would see 'herds of cattle fat on the natural produce of the country, sufficient 'for the supply of provisions for the fisheries, and the same animal fit, 'with a little training, to draw sledges at the rate of twenty miles an 'hour. It is evident, on witnessing their numbers, that all that is 'required to render the interior, now a waste, at once a well-stocked 'grazing country, could be done through the means of employing 'qualified herdsmen, who would make themselves familiar with and 'accompany these herds from pasture to pasture, as is done in 'Norway and Lapland with the reindeer there, and in Spain with the 'sheep.'"

Fisheries.

The cod fishery, which is the staple produce of Newfoundland, is prosecuted from June till October, and affords occupation to the mass of the population who carry on this fishery round the shores of the island, and on the coast of the Labrador, from whence one-third of the annual catch is now, during a prosperous season, taken. The fishery on the banks is almost exclusively confined to the French and Americans. It is remarkable that the cod fishery shows no progress, the catch of fish fifty years ago being almost as great as that of the present time. In 1820 there were exported 901,159 quintals; in 1850, 1,089,182 quintals; in 1866, 716,690 quintals; and in 1871, 957,488 quintals. Thus while the population has more than doubled, there has been almost no increase in their chief means of support with respect to the precariousness of which I may compare the fisheries of 1857 and 1866. In the former year the catch was unusually good, the quantity exported being 1,392,322 quintals, the value being £1,006,129 Newfoundland currency, while in 1866 only 716,690 quintals were exported, the value being £791,788 currency.

It may not be out of place to allude to the manner of doing business between the merchant and the fisherman. Each of the former supplies food, clothing, boats, tackle, etc., to a number of the latter, to support them and their families, on the understanding that the fishermen, or, as they are called in this Colony, "dealers," sell to the merchant all the fish taken at the market price, the value of the goods supplied being of course deducted from the cost of the fish. It will thus be seen that a bad fishery brings loss to the merchant, in proportion to the quantity of goods given by him on credit to the fisherman, whereas a good voyage (as it is called here) brings ample remuneration, as the prices charged for the supplies are exceedingly high,

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owing, I presume, to the risk of loss on the part of the merchant. This mode of business is locally called "the credit system."

With respect to the Cod Fishery for 1871, I find, on referring to the report of the Chamber of Commerce for 1872, the following respecting the past year :—" The catch of fish was beyond the average, " and has been found ample for the supply of the several markets, " but prices were not realized abroad to make shipments generally " remunerative, and the continuance of ice on the coast during a great " part of the spring prevented shipments for a considerable time, so " that a large portion of last year's catch has still to be realized." And in respect to the present year, I observe in the report, "The " shore fishery for the current season, in most localities, will be far " short of an average catch ; a great want of success having been " experienced where the fishermen relied on the use of cod seines, " except in a few isolated cases. The accounts from the Labrador are " not such as to enable us to form any estimate of the result of that " voyage, but show a fair beginning in some places, and in the neigh- " bourhood of the straits the catch by last accounts was very good."

Cod oil.
Cod liver oil.

In addition to the common cod oil, of which I find 3755 tons were exported from the Colony in 1871, a quantity of cod liver oil is manufactured here. The best kind of this oil is made without boiling, by applying to the livers a slight degree of heat, and straining through thin flannel or similar texture ; when carefully prepared, it is quite pure, nearly inodorous, and of crystalline transparency. Its medicinal virtues are too well known to need description. I append three tabular statements showing the amount of codfish, cod oil, and cod liver oil, exported from Newfoundland during the year 1871 respectively. The tables also show the countries to which these products were exported, the quantity of each article sent to the several places, the total value, and the price.

TABLE D.

TABLE showing AMOUNT of COD FISH exported from NEWFOUNDLAND during the year 1871, Countries to which exported, Value, and Price.

Article.	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported.			Value.	
		Produce and manufacture of the colony.				
		British saved.	French saved.	Total.	Total.	Price.
		Quintals.	Quintals.			
Fish, viz.— Dry Cod.	United Kingdom	58,276		58,276	$233,104	$4·00
	Jersey - -	2,416		2,416	9,664	,,
	Canada - - -	1,914		1,914	7,656	,,
	Nova Scotia -	40,579		40,579	162,316	,,
	B. W. Indies - -	77,978		77,978	272,923	3·50
	Spain - -	149,747	69,117	218,864	875,456	4·00
	Portugal - -	191,545		191,545	766,180	,,
	Italy - -	65,511		65,111	262,044	,,
	Sicily - - -	2,800		2,800	11,200	,,
	Greece - -	1,790		1,790	7,160	,,
	United States -	8,735		8,735	34,940	,,
	F. W. Indies -	31,372		31,372	125,488	,,
	Brazil - - -	255,708		255,708	1,150,686	4·50
		888,371	69,117	957,488	$3,918,817	

TABLE E.

TABLE showing AMOUNT of COD OIL and COD LIVER OIL exported from NEWFOUNDLAND during 1871, Countries to which exported, Value, and Price.

Articles.	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported. Produce and manufacture of the colony.			Value.	
		British saved.	French saved.	Total.	Total.	Price.
		Tuns.		Tuns.		
Oil, viz.— Cod.	United Kingdom	3,067		3,067	$398,710	$130·00
	Jersey - -	26		26	3,380	
	Canada - - -	133		133	17,290	
	Nova Scotia -	39		39	5,070	
	B. W. Indies - -	13		13	1,690	
	Hamburg - -	6		6	780	
	Spain - - -	16		16	2,080	
	United States -	455		455	59,150	
		3,755		3,755	$488,150	
		Tuns.		Tuns.		
Oil, viz.— Cod Liver.	United Kingdom	177		177	$35,400	
	Canada - -	20		20	4,000	
	Nova Scotia - -	11		11	2,200	
	United States -	92		92	18,400	
	Hamburg - -	1		1	200	
		301		301	$60,200	

The Seal Fishery.

Seal fishery.

This fishery ranks next in importance to that of the cod, commences about the 1st March in each year, and terminates in May. Of late the seal fishery has greatly declined. Twenty years ago about 400 vessels were annually engaged in it; now not more than half that number. Within the last few years steamers (screws) have been employed with great success, and there can be little doubt that in this fishery steamers will ere long be almost exclusively employed. I find that about fifteen or sixteen steamers were despatched to the fishery in 1871, and I think nineteen or twenty during the past spring, so that it is evident their number increases annually. These steamers are very strongly built of wood sheathed with iron at the bows, in order to contend with masses of floating field ice through which they (the steamers) must frequently force a passage in order to reach the seals, which are generally found in the centre, and not on the edges of packs of ice. Thus the steamers have a considerable advantage over sailing vessels; the latter being obliged to grope through chance passages in the ice-fields, or remain at the edges until a strong wind disperses the pack. Another advantage in respect to steamers, consists in being able to come close to the spot where the men despatch the seals, whereas, in reference to vessels, the seals are frequently killed at some miles from the ship, thereby entailing great labour on the already hard worked sealers, who are obliged to drag the carcasses along the ice to their respective ships.

One-third of the value of the seals taken is divided among the crew of the steamers, and one half the value of the seals in respect to sailing vessels. The amount advanced to each man is deducted

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from each share. The merchants, as in the case of the cod fishery, supply each sealer with food, clothing, &c., &c., in anticipation of being paid by a successful voyage.

Some idea of the value of this fishery may be gathered from the fact that last spring the steamship 'Commodore,' owned by Mr. John Munn, of Harbour Grace, brought in seals to the number of 32,000, valued at about 24,000*l.* sterling, one-third of which, viz. 8,000*l.*, was divided among the sealers, say 200, giving to each man 40*l.* (realized in six weeks).

About 10,000 men are annually engaged in this fishery. This number includes almost every available able-bodied man in the Island. A calculation to this effect can be easily arrived at by deducting from the male population, 75,000 old men, sick and infirm, and boys, as well as those engaged in professional pursuits and those serving under Government.

In addition to seal oil a large quantity of seal skins are annually exported, the number in 1871 being nearly 500,000.

Four kinds of seals.

There are four kinds of seals, viz.—the *harp* seal, the most valuable of all; the *hooded* seal, which has a hood that it can draw over its head; the *square flipper*, and the *bay* seal.

Seal fishery, 1871.

With respect to the seal fishery of 1871, I find in the report of the Chamber of Commerce for that year the following observations, viz:—

"The seal fishery of the present year was one of the most successful on record—an issue which was doubtless due to the prevalence of winds during the month of March which kept the ice well off the coast, enabling the ships to find their way with less than the ordinary amount of obstruction. There can be no doubt that the almost universal success this year of the steamers engaged in this fishery will lead to a material increase in their number during the ensuing season."

Employment of steamers gradually increasing in seal fishery.

Touching the increase of steamers, the opinion of the commercial body has proved correct, four or five steamers having been added to the sealing fleet during the past spring.

I annex tabular statements showing outfit of seal fishery from certain ports of Newfoundland in 1871,* number of vessels returned, and number of seals taken on the 9th May 1871, the quantity of seal oil exported, to what countries, and its value, in 1871, and the number of seal skins exported during the same year.

TABLE F.

OUTFIT of the SEAL FISHERY from certain PORTS OF NEWFOUNDLAND, 1871.

Ports.	Vessels.	Steamers.	Number of men.
St. John's - - -	26	8	2,022
Harbour Grace - -	63	3	3,977
Brigus - - - -	23	2	1,180
Carbonear - - -	14	—	560
Bay Roberts - - -	9	1	679
Trinity - - -	9	1	376
Hants Harbour - -	2	—	56
Total - -	146	15	8,850

* The fleet generally sails from the different ports on the 1st March (annually).

TABLE G.

NUMBER of VESSELS which had arrived at certain PORTS OF NEWFOUNDLAND up to date, with TOTAL NUMBER OF SEALS TAKEN. Extracted from 'Royal Gazette' of the 9th May, 1871.

Ports at which vessels arrived.	Number of vessels, including steamers.	Number of seals taken.
St. Johns - - -	71	284,392
Harbour Grace -	45	172,109
Carbonear - - -	1	4,100
Bay Roberts - -	4	21,050
Total - -	121	481,651

TABLE H.

TABLE showing AMOUNT of SEAL OIL exported from NEWFOUNDLAND during 1871, Countries to which exported, Value, and Price.

Articles.	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported. Produce and manufacture of the Colony.			Value.	
		British saved.	French saved.	Total.	Total.	Price.
		Tuns.	Tuns.	Tuns.		
Oil, Seal	United Kingdom	5,574		5,574	$780,360	$140·00
	Canada - - -	261		261	36,540	
	Nova Scotia -	10		10	1,400	
	B. West Indies -	9		9	1,260	
	Hamburg - -	580		580	81,200	
	United States -	322	187	509	71,260	
		6,756	187	6,943	$972,020	

TABLE I.

TABLE showing QUANTITY of SEAL SKINS exported from NEWFOUNDLAND in 1871, Countries to which exported, Value, and Price.

Articles.	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported. Produce and manufacture of the Colony			Value.	
		British saved.	French saved.	Total.	Total.	Price.
		Number.		Number.		
Seal Skins	United Kingdom	451,048		451,048	$451,048	$1·00
	Canada - - -	1,505		1,505	1,505	
	Nova Scotia -	709		709	709	
	United States -	33,000		33,000	33,000	
		486,262		486,262	$486,262	

The Caplin Fishery.

Caplin fishery

In the month of June each year the shores of Newfoundland are visited by enormous shoals of caplin for the purpose of spawning. The masses of them in the various bays and harbours are so great

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that two men with a small landing net will fill a boat in a couple of hours. So little account is made of this delicious little fish that it is largely employed in manuring the fields and gardens.

Naturalists name the caplin the *Salmo Arcticus*. The flavour of it when fresh is delicious, and its size about that of the sardine. There is little doubt that, if properly cured, the caplin might compete with either sardines or anchovies, which are so profitable to the fishermen of the Mediterranean. If merely pickled and dried it would be worth more than a dollar a barrel; but no attention is paid to this little fish, the supply of which seems inexhaustible.

Herring fishery.

Herring Fishery.

Herring are found in large quantities, and of the finest quality, on many parts of the coast, while the Labrador herring enjoy a widespread reputation. The chief seats of this fishery are St. George's Bay, Fortune Bay, Bay of Islands, and Bonne Bay, In Bay of Islands during the winter holes are cut in the ice, and the herrings taken in nets; this fishery lasts from December until April. By the tabular statement which I annex, I observe that 50,341 barrels of herring were exported in 1871, valued at $151,023.

TABLE J.

TABLE showing AMOUNT of HERRING exported from NEWFOUNDLAND during the year 1871, Countries to which exported, Value, and Price.

Article.	Countries to which exported.	Quantity exported. Produce and manufacture of the Colony. British saved.	French saved.	Total.	Value. Total.	Price.
		Barrels.				
Fish, viz. Herring.	United Kingdom	8,146		8,146	$24,438	$3·00
	Jersey - - -	569		569	1,707	
	Canada - -	3,450		3,450	10,350	
	Nova Scotia - -	8,857		8,857	26,571	
	New Brunswick -	400		400	1,200	
	P. E. Island - -	734		734	2,202	
	B. West Indies -	7,948		7,948	23,844	
	United States -	14,973	4,690	19,663	58,989	
	F. West Indies -	271		271	813	
	Brazil - - -	303		303	909	
		45,651	4,690	50,341	$151,023	

Salmon fishery.

Salmon Fishery.

The salmon fishery of the Island is abundant, and the fish are of excellent quality. In Gander Bay, White Bay, Bay of Exploits, and Bonavista, this fishery is large and constantly increasing. The method of taking the fish is generally in nets. So plentiful is the supply of fresh salmon during the season in St. Johns, that it is often sold at four or five cents per pound.

With respect to this fishery, I found on my arrival in the Colony

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Bad habit of barring rivers, &c. &c., to catch salmon.

that a very pernicious habit prevailed, viz. that of "barring" the brooks and rivers when the fish were about to ascend them to spawn, at all parts of the Colony wherever salmon existed. I brought this subject under the notice of my advisers, who directed all the magistrates to exercise the utmost vigilance in preventing this bad practice. This habit has been, I am glad to say, to a great extent checked, but I find on referring to Commander Knowles' Fishery Report for the present year, that the barring of rivers still prevails on that part of the coast over which the Government of Newfoundland have no magisterial jurisdiction. Captain Knowles, in referring to this point, writes as follows, viz. :—

"*The Salmon Fishery.*—I cannot conclude my report without again referring to the state of the salmon fishery on this * coast, both in the rivers and in the bays and creeks of the Island, which, through the cupidity, selfishness, and I may add ignorance, on the part of the fishermen, is not slowly but very surely becoming exterminated. In the bays, fleets of nets are frequently laid down, sometimes twenty and forty, and even fifty at a time, and every inlet stopped; and if the fish should by any chance be able to escape the first barriers, the rivers are so obstructed by weirs, traps, dams, and nets, the latter frequently stretched right across and at close intervals, that it is a wonder that this fishery has not long since come to an end. Some of the river obstructions are generally removed before the anticipated arrival of a man-of-war, only to be replaced when she leaves the neighbourhood, and I would strongly recommend that some active measures should at once be taken by the Government to stop this deplorable state of affairs, before the salmon fishery of Newfoundland becomes a thing of the past."

Sport. Salmon and trout.

Respecting the salmon fishery in reference to sport, I may here state that excellent fresh-water salmon abound in many of the rivers, and that the innumerable streams and lakes teem with trout, which are frequently of a large size,—about five or six pounds,—offer to anglers an inexhaustible field of sport.

I annex tabular statements as to the quantity of salmon exported from the Colony during 1871.

TABLE K.

TABLE showing AMOUNT of SALMON exported from NEWFOUNDLAND, 1871, Countries to which exported, Value, and Price.

Articles.	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported.						Value.	
		Produce and manufacture of the Colony.							
		British saved.		French saved.	Total.			Total.	Price.
		Trs.	Brls.		Trs.	Brls.			
Fish, viz. Salmon.	United Kingdom	625	48		625	48		$10,576	$16·12
	Canada - -	79	116		79	116		2,656	,,
	Nova Scotia - -	66	106		66	106		2,328	,,
	B. W. Indies -	4	322		4	322		3,928	,,
	United States -	1,089	502		1,089	502		23,448	,,
	F. W. Indies -		46			46		552	,,
	Brazil - - -		11			11		132	,,
		1,863	1,151		1,863	1,151		$43,620	

* In reference principally to the "French Shore."

NEWFOUNDLAND.

TABLE L.

TABLE showing VALUE of PRESERVED SALMON exported from NEWFOUNDLAND in 1871, and Countries to which exported.

Articles.	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported. Produce and manufacture of the Colony.			Value.	
		British saved.	French saved.	Total.	Total.	Price.
		Value.				
Salmon, Preserved.	United Kingdom	$920		$920	$920	Declared.
	Nova Scotia -	300		300	300	
	B. W. Indies - -	350		350	350	
		$1,570		$1,570	$1,570	

Mackerel fishery.

Mackerel and other Fisheries.

The mackerel fishery, which was once somewhat extensive, has been for some years extremely poor. I find, however, that within the past two years a gradual increase has taken place in the catch of this fish, and that last year mackerel were taken more to the south than the previous year. This leads one to hope that the shoals of mackerel which used in former years to resort to these shores, may again revisit it. I observe about 1,300 barrels of mackerel were exported from the Colony during the past year.

Other fisheries.

With reference to other fisheries, I find that halibut, turbot, and lobsters are taken on the coast.

Tongues, sounds, and cod roes.

I annex tabular statements as to the quantity of these fish exported during 1871, together with the amount of certain products of the cod, viz. tongues and sounds, and cod roes. In one of the tabular statements the quantity of caplin, viz. 91 barrels, to which fishery I have already referred, will be found.

TABLE M.

Respecting CERTAIN FISHERIES of NEWFOUNDLAND, 1871.

Articles.	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported. Produce and manufacture of the Colony.			Value.	
		British saved.	French saved.	Total.	Total.	Price.
		Quintals.		Quintals.		
Turbot - -	Jersey - -	6		6	$24	$4·00
	Canada - - -	40		40	160	
		46		46	184	
		Barrels.		Barrels.		
Caplin - -	United Kingdom	91		91	$91	$1·00
		91		91	91	1·00
Lobsters, Preserved.	United Kingdom	$200		$200	$200	Declared.
	Canada - -	250		250	250	
		450		450	450	

TABLE M.—*continued.*

Articles.	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported. Produce and manufacture of the Colony. British saved.	French saved.	Total.	Value. Total.	Price.
		Kegs.		Kegs.		
Tongues and Sounds.	United Kingdom	59		59	$59	$1·00
	Jersey - -	33		33	33	,,
	Nova Scotia - -	106		106	106	,,
	B. W. Indies -	89		89	89	,,
	United States -	102		102	102	,,
		389		389	$389	

TABLE N.

Respecting CERTAIN FISHERIES of NEWFOUNDLAND, 1871.

Articles.	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported. Produce and manufacture of the Colony. British saved.	French saved.	Total.	Value. Total.	Price.
		Barrels.		Barrels.		
Trout - -	B. West Indies -	27		27	$216	$8·00
	Spain - - -	200		200	1,600	
	United States -	386		386	3,088	
		613		613	4,904	
		Barrels.		Barrels.		
Mackerel -	Canada - -	51		51	$408	$8·00
	B. West Indies -	243		243	1,944	
	United States - -	916		916	7,328	
	Brazil - - -	28		28	224	
		1,238		1,238	9,904	
		Qtls.		Qtls.		
Halibut -	Nova Scotia - -	557		557	$1,114	$2·00
	Canada - -	140		140	280	
		697		697	$1,394	

TABLE O.

Respecting Quantity of COD ROES exported from NEWFOUNDLAND, 1871.

Articles.	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported. Produce and manufacture of the Colony. British saved.	French saved.	Total.	Value. Total.	Price.
		Barrels.		Barrels.		
Cod Roes	United Kingdom	22		22	$176	$8·00
	Nova Scotia - -	488		488	3,904	,,
	France - -	1,004		1,004	8,032	,,
	Spain - - -	273		273	2,184	,,
		1,787		1,787	$14,296	

NEWFOUNDLAND.

PRINCIPAL STATISTICS of NEWFOUNDLAND, 1871.

	£	s.	d.	
Revenue - - -	164,308	4	5½	sterling.
Expenditure - - -	152,061	5	10	„
Public debt - -	241,145	16	7½	„
Value of Imports - -	1,258,172	5	10	„
Value of Exports -	1,310,892	5	10	„

Tonnage of Vessels { Entered - - 163,999 tons.
Cleared - - - 148,898 „

I annex certain tabular statements respecting several statistics of the Colony for the year 1871. I believe that these Tables will afford, in a condensed form, valuable information respecting the trade of this Island, and I trust that their perusal will not prove uninteresting. They have been taken from the Customs returns of the Colony, and will, I anticipate, appear sufficiently explicative as to render unnecessary further observations or comment on my part. I may, however, observe that all the Tables, except Table T., refer to Newfoundland only, the latter (Table T) refers to Newfoundland and Labrador, by which Table the export of fish from the two places in 1871 was 1,328,726 quintals. Table D shows the export of fish from Newfoundland, 1871, to be 888,371 quintals, the difference of course being the amount exported from Labrador in 1871. The map of Newfoundland, which I append, although not correct in its bearings and distances, will be found useful as a reference to the names of places mentioned in these observations.

TABLE P.

TOTAL VALUE of the IMPORTS and EXPORTS of NEWFOUNDLAND from and to each Country in the Year 1871.

Countries.	Imports therefrom.	Exports thereto.
United Kingdom - - -	$2,278,672	$2,005,012
Jersey - - - -	63,058	15,209
Canada - - - - -	791,437	105,443
Nova Scotia - - -	425,685	224,375
New Brunswick - - -	13,131	1,200
Prince Edward Island -	50,663	2,202
British West Indies - -	250,319	311,173
Hamburgh - - -	124,223	82,180
France - - - - -	5,896	8,032
Spain - - - -	44,238	881,320
Portugal - - - -	53,863	766,180
Italy - - - -	850	262,044
Sicily - - - - -	5,556	11,200
Greece - - - -	—	7,160
United States - - -	1,776,413	321,610
Foreign West Indies - -	144,205	127,893
Brazil - - - - -	1,512	1,154,729
St. Peter's - - - -	9,506	5,321
Total - - - -	$6,039,227	$6,292,283

TABLE Q.

ABSTRACT of ACCOUNT of the NUMBER, TONNAGE, and CREWS of VESSELS CLEARED OUTWARDS at each PORT in NEWFOUNDLAND for each COUNTRY, in the year 1871, distinguishing VESSELS with CARGO from those BALLAST, and BRITISH from FOREIGN SHIPS.

Countries for which Cleared.	BRITISH.									FOREIGN.									TOTAL.								
	With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.			With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.			With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
United Kingdom -	118	22,797	1,191	—	—	—	118	22,797	1,191	2	229	13	—	—	—	2	229	13	120	23,026	1,204	—	—	—	120	23,026	1,204
British Possessions -	205	35,698	2,092	305	41,446	1,963	510	77,144	4,055	1	464	12	—	—	—	1	464	12	206	36,162	2,104	305	41,446	1,963	511	77,608	4,067
Hanseatic Towns -	5	788	42	—	—	—	5	788	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	788	42	—	—	—	5	788	42
France - - -	1	119	7	—	—	—	1	119	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	119	7	—	—	—	1	119	7
Holland - - -	3	407	21	—	—	—	3	407	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	407	21	—	—	—	3	407	21
Spain - - - -	44	5,787	306	—	—	—	44	5,787	306	24	2,870	223	—	—	—	24	2,870	223	68	8,657	529	—	—	—	68	8,657	529
Portugal - -	65	8,334	457	1	148	7	66	8,482	464	1	159	11	—	—	—	1	159	11	66	8,493	468	1	148	7	67	8,641	475
Italy - - - -	26	2,884	149	—	—	—	26	2,884	149	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	2,884	149	—	—	—	26	2,884	149
United States -	26	3,577	198	—	—	—	26	3,577	198	32	4,711	286	—	—	—	32	4,711	286	58	8,288	484	—	—	—	58	8,288	484
Spanish West Indies	17	2,336	113	—	—	—	17	2,336	113	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	2,336	113	—	—	—	17	2,336	113
French Colonies -	8	511	35	1	119	6	9	630	41	1	112	6	—	—	—	1	112	6	9	623	41	1	119	6	10	742	47
Brazil - - -	75	14,822	697	—	—	—	75	14,822	697	4	580	42	—	—	—	4	580	42	79	15,402	739	—	—	—	79	15,402	739
	593	98,060	5,308	307	41,713	1,976	900	139,773	7,284	65	9,125	593	—	—	—	65	9,125	593	658	107,185	5,901	307	41,713	1,976	965	148,898	7,877

TABLE R.

An ACCOUNT of VESSELS ENTERED at each PORT of NEWFOUNDLAND, from all COUNTRIES, in the year 1871.

Ports at which Entered.	BRITISH.									FOREIGN.									TOTAL.								
	With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.			With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.			With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons,	Crews.
St. Johns	708	120,267	5,906	13	1,672	80	721	121,939	5,986	26	5,391	316	8	998	79	34	6,389	395	734	125,658	6,222	21	2,670	159	755	128,328	6,381
Tilt Cove	2	315	12	—	—	—	2	315	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	315	12	—	—	—	2	315	12
Twillingate	6	628	40	—	—	—	6	628	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	628	40	—	—	—	6	628	40
Fogo	3	501	25	—	—	—	3	501	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	501	25	—	—	—	3	501	25
Greenspond	1	111	5	—	—	—	1	111	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	111	5	—	—	—	1	111	5
Trinity	6	661	38	—	—	—	6	661	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	661	38	—	—	—	6	661	38
Catalina	1	285	8	1	60	15	2	345	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	285	8	1	60	15	2	345	23
Carbonear	8	945	61	1	142	6	9	1,087	67	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	945	61	1	142	6	9	1,087	67
Harbour Grace	104	14,227	698	5	607	30	109	14,834	728	4	367	27	1	128	9	5	495	36	108	14,594	725	6	735	39	114	15,329	764
Bay Roberts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	525	20	—	—	—	1	525	20	1	525	20	—	—	—	1	525	20
Brigus	5	814	38	—	—	—	5	814	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	814	38	—	—	—	5	814	38
Renews	1	137	8	—	—	—	1	137	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	137	8	—	—	—	1	137	8
Trepassey	3	166	24	—	—	—	3	166	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	166	24	—	—	—	3	166	24
Great Placentia	2	55	7	—	—	—	2	55	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	55	7	—	—	—	2	55	7
Oderin	8	114	23	—	—	—	8	114	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	114	23	—	—	—	8	114	23
Burin	20	1,390	92	2	143	10	22	1,533	102	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	1,390	92	2	143	10	22	1,533	102
St. Lawrence	4	203	16	—	—	—	4	203	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	203	16	—	—	—	4	203	16
La Maline	46	1,103	174	—	—	—	46	1,103	174	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	1,103	174	—	—	—	46	1,103	174
Grand Bank	11	394	52	—	—	—	11	394	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	394	52	—	—	—	11	394	52
Harbour Briton	22	2,229	139	—	—	—	22	2,229	139	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	2,229	139	—	—	—	22	2,229	139
English Harbour	7	306	32	—	—	—	7	306	32	23	1,760	145	4	318	26	27	2,078	171	30	2,066	177	4	318	26	34	2,384	203
Pushthrough	22	540	79	—	—	—	22	540	79	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	540	79	—	—	—	22	540	79
Gaultois	8	959	66	—	—	—	8	959	66	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	959	66	—	—	—	8	959	66
Burgeo	7	589	43	—	—	—	7	589	43	—	—	—	1	50	7	1	50	7	7	589	43	1	50	7	8	639	50
La Poile	32	3,014	201	—	—	—	32	3,014	201	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	3,014	201	—	—	—	32	3,014	201
Rose Blanche	7	222	29	—	—	—	7	222	29	2	141	11	—	—	—	2	141	11	9	363	40	—	—	—	9	363	40
Channel	34	1,522	145	—	—	—	34	1,522	145	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34	1,522	145	—	—	—	34	1,522	145
	1,078	151,697	7,961	22	2,624	141	1,100	154,321	8,102	56	8,184	519	14	1,494	121	70	9,678	640	1,134	159,881	8,480	36	4,118	262	1,170	163,999	8,742

TABLE S.

An ACCOUNT of VESSELS CLEARED at each PORT of NEWFOUNDLAND, from all COUNTRIES, in the year 1871.

Ports at which Entered.	BRITISH.									FOREIGN.									TOTAL.								
	With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.			With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.			With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
St. Johns	384	75,656	3,945	225	3,264	1,464	609	108,296	5,409	33	6,623	3 8	—	—	—	33	6,623	387	417	82,279	4,332	225	32,640	1,464	642	114,919	5,796
Tilt Cove	5	912	33	—	—	—	5	912	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	912	33	—	—	—	5	912	33
Twillingate	9	1,031	61	—	—	—	9	1,031	61	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	1,031	61	—	—	—	9	1,031	61
Fogo	8	743	48	2	289	16	10	1,032	64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	743	48	2	289	16	10	1,032	64
Greenspond	3	392	19	1	111	5	4	503	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	392	19	1	111	5	4	503	24
Trinity	4	351	23	2	260	14	6	611	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	351	23	2	260	14	6	611	37
Catalina	4	362	21	2	345	23	6	707	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	362	21	2	345	23	6	707	44
Carbonear	4	526	30	5	689	40	9	1,215	70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	526	30	5	689	40	9	1,215	70
Harbour Grace	66	9,668	497	32	4,002	195	98	13,670	692	3	306	23	—	—	—	3	306	23	69	9,974	520	32	4,002	195	101	13,976	715
Bay Roberts	5	750	50	—	—	—	5	750	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	750	50	—	—	—	5	750	50
Brigus	—	—	—	7	1,051	55	7	1,051	55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1,051	55	7	1,051	55
Renews	2	202	13	—	—	—	2	202	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	202	13	—	—	—	2	202	13
Trepassey	2	133	12	—	—	—	2	133	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	133	12	—	—	—	2	133	12
Burin	3	393	21	5	478	27	8	871	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	393	21	5	478	27	8	871	48
St. Lawrence	2	127	9	1	69	5	3	196	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	127	9	1	69	5	3	196	14
Grand Bank	2	84	11	—	—	—	2	84	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	84	11	—	—	—	2	84	11
Harbour Britain	11	1,335	92	2	226	11	13	1,561	103	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	1,335	92	2	226	11	13	1,561	103
English Harbour	2	193	13	—	—	—	2	193	13	27	2,078	171	—	—	—	27	2,078	171	29	2,271	184	—	—	—	29	2,271	184
Pushthrough	5	175	21	—	—	—	5	175	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	175	21	—	—	—	5	175	21
Gaultois	5	867	56	2	295	17	7	1,162	73	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	867	56	2	295	17	7	1,162	73
Burgeo	5	423	30	2	70	8	7	493	38	1	50	7	—	—	—	1	50	7	6	473	37	2	70	8	8	543	45
La Poile	20	1,754	126	8	763	51	28	2,517	177	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	1,754	126	8	763	51	28	2,517	177
Rose Blanche	16	805	61	1	32	4	17	837	65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	805	61	1	32	4	17	837	65
Channel	26	1,178	116	10	393	41	36	1,571	157	1	68	5	—	—	—	1	68	5	27	1,246	121	10	393	41	37	1,639	162
	593	98,060	5,308	307	41,713	1,976	900	139,773	7,284	65	9,125	593				65	9,125	593	658	107,185	5,901	307	41,713	1,976	965	148,898	7,877

NEWFOUNDLAND.

TABLE T.

STATEMENT of EXPORTS from NEWFOUNDLAND and LABRADOR, and their VALUE, for year 1871.*

	Articles.	£	s.	d.
1,328,726	quintals dried cod at 19*s.*	1,262,289	14	0
640	„ green cod at 8*s.*	256	0	0
547,094	seal skins at 5*s.* 3*d.*	140,917	3	6
8,504	tuns seal oil at 32*l.*	272,128	0	0
9	„ whale oil at 32*l.*	228	0	0
5,238	„ cod oil at 36*l.*	173,954	0	0
313	„ refined cod oil at 4*s.* per gallon	16,025	0	0
27	„ other oils at 30*l.*	810	0	0
79	„ blubber at 4*l.*	316	0	0
3,977	tierces salmon at 85*s.*	16,902	5	0
187,429	barrels herrings at 12*s.*	112,457	8	0
454	„ trout at 25*s.*	567	10	0
1,374	„ mackerel at 27*s.* 6d.	1,880	5	0
1,939	„ cod roes at 15*s.*	1,454	5	0
20	„ turbot at 20*s.*	20	0	0
199	pks. sounds and tongues at 5*s.*	47	15	0
450	cwt. halibut at 10*s.*	225	0	0
52	„ haddock at 8*s.*	20	16	0
1,925	tons copper ore at 9*l.*	17,316	0	0
225	„ lead ore at 35*l.*	7,875	0	0
9	„ nickel ore at 80*l.*	720	0	0
Sundries estimated at		12,000	0	0
		£2,038,651	13	6
	Or	$8,154,206·70		

* The other Tables refer to Newfoundland only; this Table refers to Newfoundland and Labrador.

Conclusion.

Conclusion.

It may appear somewhat inconsistent on my part, in the foregoing observations on Newfoundland, not to have referred at more length to the fisheries—the great staple industries of the Island—while other subjects of apparently small import are more than succinctly commented upon. My object in so doing is to invite attention to such peculiarities of the Colony as are not generally known, and to avoid entering upon particulars, so well understood and so frequently and ably reported on, as the fisheries.

The description which I have endeavoured to give of the topographical and geographical features of Newfoundland, the former so intimately associated with the geology and mineralogy of the country, and the latter so characteristic of a great fishing station, will, I hope, not prove uninteresting.

If the views which I entertain respecting the agricultural capabilities of the Island be considered fallacious and based upon insufficient data, I must plead that I glean my opinions upon this point from the reports of those who have actually visited the interior. I am not now disposed to weary the reader with further argument on this topic. I may, however, allude to the established fact of the existence of cultivable land in the vicinity of St. George's Bay, capable of undergoing the most extensive farming operations, and of supporting, in a great measure, more than the whole of our population, as well as of many spots of an equally rich and deep soil, and

then leave the inference as to the agricultural capabilities of Newfoundland to the peruser of these remarks. At all events, it cannot be denied that husbandry would form an invaluable addition as a channel of industry to the frequently precarious cod fishery, and assist materially to support the fisherman when his principal resource fails.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL.

[S. J.]

BERMUDA.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor LEFROY, C.B., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Government House, Bermuda, May 13, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year ending 31st December, 1871.

2. The revenue raised by direct taxation, or the proceeds of the Supply Acts, exhibits an increase of 1,552*l.* beyond that of 1870. The total revenue, deducting in each year what was raised on debentures for the completion of the Causeway, shows an increase on 1870 of 1,486*l.*, or 5·2 per cent., being 29,849*l.* as against 28,363*l.*

3. The total expenditure shows an increase of 398*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, or deducting what in each year was spent on the completion of the Causeway, in the redemption of Causeway debentures, and on steam communication with New York, of 1,017*l.*, or 4·4 per cent., being 23,312*l.*, as against 22,295*l.* The removal of obstructions and navigation at Timblins Narrows cost nearly this sum (999*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*).

4. The most direct test of the prosperity of these Islands is afforded by its exports of agricultural produce, which in 1871 exceeded those of any former year. The increase appears chiefly in tomatos, the cultivation of which has in some degree diminished the production of other vegetables. The export being the gross production *minus* the home consumption, will be affected by any considerable addition to the numbers of consumers. The garrison in 1869–70 was about 700 men stronger than in 1866 and 1867, representing, with women and children, 800 or 900 mouths, a considerable addition to a population of only 12,000, and probably affecting the exports of vegetables in those years. Next to the United States the Colony of Demerara is the best customer of Bermuda. The export trade in agricultural produce with the Dominion of Canada by way of Halifax is very small, excepting in the article of arrowroot, and is probably susceptible of development, Bermuda being capable of supplying the Nova Scotia markets with vegetables at least two months earlier than they can be raised on the spot. Annexed are the total exports of the produce named, for six years :—

	Arrowroot.	Onions.	Potatoes.	Tomatos.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
1866	14·35	—	6095·1	124·6
1867	23·65	654·90	7615·3	70·0
1868	24·66	1355·65	7563·0	206·4
1869	18·15	1657·85	7020·5	65·8
1870	21·45	2378·10	7897·8	233·6
1871	13·81	2158·30	7233·5	672·5

In 1866 there were 43,405 packages of onions exported, but as their size was variable, the quantity cannot be stated. Onions are now packed in boxes of 50 lbs. The crop this year has furnished employment for a second steamer to New York every fortnight.

5. The revenue derived from ardent spirits, wine, and malt liquor, continues to constitute half the income of the Colony as raised by taxation, and it is such as to indicate a very large consumption per head. The male population above 10 years age, including the soldiers, naval establishment, and occasional men-of-war, may be taken at 6,700. The annual importation of spirits, little or none of which is exported again, has been as follows:—

	Brandy.	Gin.	Rum.	Whiskey.	Total.
	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.
1866	7,116	5,727	35,854	—	
1867	5,107	5,430	30,924	858	
1868	5,420	7,013	25,907	545	
1869	4,950	4,795	40,812	516	
1870	8,866	9,741	31,027	495	
1871	8,894	5,857	64,473	1,752	
Average	6,725	6,425	38,166	833	52,149

6. Except so far as the stock held in bond or otherwise on the 1st of January, 1872, may have differed from the stock held in January, 1866, the above total of 52,149 gallons of spirits represents correctly the annual consumption of the population, army and navy, and as the Receiver-General estimates the consumption of rum alone at about 40,000 gallons per annum, the total is no doubt very nearly correct. Divided among the total population, estimated at 16,200, it amounts to 3·21 gallons a head, but divided only among the males over 10 years of age, it amounts to no less than 7·77 gallons a head, a result which unfortunately places Bermuda high in the scale of spirit-drinking communities. The rum imported into Bermuda not being taxed on its strength, is of the strongest quality, and is largely increased in volume by dilution before it reaches the consumer.

7. It would be wrong, however, to infer from this, a particular prevalence of intemperate habits among the civil population. No such thing is established by the criminal returns, or meets the eye of ordinary observation. The census of 2nd April, 1871, showed the presence on that date of 2,000 officers and men, viz. 1,872 belonging to the army, and not less than 128* belonging to the naval establish-

* The census return does not distinguish between adults and children. The males were 316.

ment, whose consumption of ardent spirits is above the average. It resulted from a careful inquiry made by order of H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief, that the consumption of spirits in the canteens alone, where it is discouraged, amounts to about 4·5 gallons a man per annum, and the records of civil and military police show that this consumption is by no means confined to those establishments. The presence of several of H.M. men-of-war during part of the year, adds also largely to the consumption. During the year 1871 the sailors casually present were as nearly as can be ascertained equivalent to a constant addition of 970 men to the civil population and troops. In this year there was a visit from the flying squadron, but it may be taken at about 870 in ordinary years, so that finally we obtain a divisor for the total consumption thus :—

White males above 10, by census- - -	1,612
Coloured - - - - - -	2,359
Troops, by medical returns - - -	1,733
Seamen and marines, average strength - -	870
Dockyard establishments, estimated - -	128
	6,702

8. The imports of malt liquor and wine are small compared with those of spirits, especially if considered in relation to alcholic strength, which may be taken roughly as—rum 80; brandy, 52; whisky, 50; gin, 49; wine, various, 14; malt liquor, 6·5. Every effort is now made in the military canteens to reduce the price of malt liquors, and to favour their consumption by the troops in preference to ardent spirits, which may help to account for the larger increase of importations in 1871. The average consumption per man was shown by the inquiry I have already referred to, to be at the rate of 62· gallons (61·88) per man per annum.

	Malt Liquors.			Wine in Gallons.
	Hogsheads of 49 Gallons.	In dozens of Bottles at 2 Gallons = 1 dozen.	Total in Gallons.	
1866 - - - -	1,081	7,907	68,783	5,467
1867- - - - -	1,335	5,695	76,805	8,548
1868 - - - -	2,338	7,408	129,378	7,187
1869 - - - - -	2,235	8,193	125,901	8,085
1870 - - - -	2,532	6,966	138,000	9,015
1871- - - - -	4,215	13,527	233,589	7,999

53,833 gallons of malt liquor imported in 1871, or about one-fourth of the whole, was from the Dominion of Canada, being more than double the imports of any former year.

9. I have already, in Despatch No. 56, of 14th September, 1871, discussed the results of the census taken 2nd April, 1871, and in Despatch No. 69, of 25th November, 1871, discussed the present excess of the female population of these Islands, namely, whites as 2,607 to 2,118, or 123 to 100 males; coloured as 4,112 to 3,284, or 125 to 100 males; or if we have regard to persons between the ages

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of 20 and 50 alone, it was by the census of 1871, whites as 1,042 to 860, or as 121 to 100 males; coloured as 1,777 to 1,288, or as 137 to 100 males, and I have shown that the disproportion is lessening: from 1826 to 1843 there was an excess of white females of 50 per cent. This subject therefore does not call for further remark.

10. I shall shortly have the honour to forward the Report on the sanitary state of Bermuda, called for by your Lordship's Despatch, No. 78, of 16th December, 1871, which I will only anticipate by saying that it results that infant mortality is less in Bermuda than in Great Britain; a larger proportion of persons also attain advanced ages; but on the other hand the mortality among coloured persons of both sexes, and among the white males between the ages of 15 and 60 is greater than the average mortality for the same periods of life in England, while female life between 30 and 60 is apparently better in Bermuda than in England. The mean civil mortality in Bermuda appears to be at the rate of 22·3 per 1000 persons per annum, which compares favourably with England, and on the whole I feel sanguine of being able to show that neither the climate nor the sanitary conditions of Bermuda are unfavourable to European life.

11. Some progress has been made towards carrying out the intentions of the Devonshire College Act of 1870, by the sale of the college ground for the purposes of a lunatic asylum, and arrangements for the purchase of another part for the purposes of a public Horticultural Garden are advanced; but I regret to say that the sum likely to be realized by the sale of the whole will go but a little way towards the endowment of the two new Grammar Schools contemplated by the Act.

12. The rejection by the Legislature of the Bill for the erection of a new gaol leaves this Colony where it has been for many years, in the position of having no gaol where reformatory discipline or the education of prisoners can be carried out, and still subjects some prisoners to conditions of confinement in associated cells, which are demoralizing and injurious to health. My best exertions will not be wanting to bring about a better state of things, but I see little probability of success until the prior task, which the Legislature has at last undertaken, the erection of a new lunatic asylum, is completed.

13. There are in Bermuda about 30 insane persons, who may be thus classified:—

	Males.	Females.
Whites of the better class - -	2	4
" " lower class - -	4	2
Coloured - - - -	8	10

There are also at least 3 natives of Bermuda in lunatic asylums in Nova Scotia or the United States, the whole making a very large proportion of insane persons to the population. Close intermarriage of the whites, and intemperance in both races, are the prevailing causes. The present provision consists of six cells for female pauper patients, four cells for male pauper patients, three cells for refractory or violent male patients. Two other criminal lunatics are confined in gaol. The inadequacy, as well as the wretched character of this provision, has been so often commented upon by my predecessor, and impressed on the Legislature by successive Secretaries of State, that

it is needless for me to call attention to it. Ideas move slowly in a small and isolated community. Within these fifty years the insane have been treated more like wild beasts than like rational objects of sympathy and medical treatment, in some parts of Great Britain; such was the case here within a much shorter space of time, and when the Bermudian Legislature in 1846 deemed it expedient "to "provide some hospital or suitable place of reception upon a small "and moderate scale for the accommodation and treatment of insane "paupers," it really took a great and humane step in advance; all we have to regret is that it has apparently not seen earlier the necessity of taking a further step. However in the last session an Act was passed, No. 17, appropriating a sum of 3,500*l.* for the erection of a new lunatic hospital for 8 patients whose friends can pay for their maintenance, and for 24 pauper lunatics whose maintenance is partly paid for by their respective parishes, and partly borne by the public. The site was determined by the House of Assembly, and concurred in by the other branches of the Legislature. It has been actually purchased, although the formal deeds of transfer are not at this time executed, and nothing but the impossibility of erecting such an asylum or hospital as is contemplated, for the sum appropriated, prevents the work being proceeded with. I entertain a confident hope that when this is pointed out, the appropriation will be increased.

14. I have already reported the completion of the Causeway connecting the Island of St. George's with the mainland, at a cost of 30,350*l.* The public advantage of this Causeway, which was opened with all due formality on the 19th September, has fully realized all the expectations of its promoters. Several mishaps occurred with the swing bridge which spans the navigable channel in the first few weeks of its working, and occasioned considerable anxiety, but they seem to have been got over, and for some months the bridge has worked smoothly in all weathers.

15. A very considerable improvement in the ships' channel conducting to the harbour of Hamilton has been completed this year, by widening and deepening the part called Timblins Narrows. This work has been in hand for 10 years, and has cost altogether 4,000*l.*, but it might have been done for much less, but for the difficulty or impossibility of organizing measures here for carrying out a work of this character to the best advantage.

16. Savings banks, contemplated by Act 18 of the last session, did not come into operation within the year. Their success, however, has quite answered my expectations.

17. The other Acts of the session of 1871 call for no special remark. No. 21, "To facilitate the establishment of telegraphic "cable communication between places beyond the sea, by way of "these Islands," remains inoperative, and a great deficiency still exists in their connection with the other possessions of the Crown, whether for commercial or military purposes.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, (Signed) J. H. LEFROY.

&c. &c. &c.

[W. B.]

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 7.

No. 7.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S REPORT to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Registrar-General's Office, Sydney,
August 1, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward to you the Statistical Register for the year 1871, containing the usual series of Tables showing the progress of the Colony during that year.

PART I.

POPULATION, IMMIGRATION, VITAL STATISTICS, &c.

Since my last Report a census of the Colony has been taken, from which it is seen that the population on the 2nd April, 1871, numbered 503,981 souls, viz. 275,551 males, and 228,430 females; the former being 47,121 in excess of the latter. The increase in the total population between the interval when the census was taken in 1861 is 153,121, or 43·64 per cent. In the year 1861 the percentage of males over females was 30·, while the last census reduced it to 20·62. The total estimated population on 31st December last amounted to 519,182, being an increase for the last three quarters of the year of 15,201, or 3·01 per cent.

Marriages, Births, and Deaths.

By referring to page 3 will be found a decennial return of the number of marriages celebrated by the various denominations; also a return of the number of births and deaths registered during each quarter of the year 1871, and a decennial Table of the births and deaths registered in the Colony. The total number of marriages registered in 1871 was 3,953, of births 20,143, and of deaths 6,407.

Immigration.

The number of immigrants from the United Kingdom was 1,112, of which 357 were at the public expense. The nationality of these was as follows:—England and Wales, 259; Scotland, 10; Ireland, 75; and other countries, 13. The amount expended by the Government was 3,941*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* The total number of persons who arrived in the Colony during the year, from all parts, was 19,820.

Lunatic and Invalid Institutions.

The first return of these institutions pertains to the Hospital for the Insane at Gladesville. It will be seen that on the 31st December, 1870, there were 500 patients in the establishment,—the admissions during the year 1871 numbering 277;* the total number under

* Including 55 patients readmitted.

treatment being 777; from which number 93 were discharged recovered, 13 discharged relieved, 151 removed not improved, and 35 died, making a total of 292, and leaving 485 inmates on 31st December, 1871. The total cost of this establishment was 13,590*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* The Free Lunatic Asylum at Parramatta numbered 719 patients on 31st December, 1870. The admissions for the year were 184, the total under treatment being 903—those discharged, recovered, 24; removed, not improved, 96; died, 55; leaving 728 on 31st December last. The sum of 14,252*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* was expended on this and the Convict Lunatic Asylum at Parramatta, which had 57 inmates at the end of the year 1870. There were no admissions, but 5 of their number died, and 7 were removed.

The remaining returns of Asylums are those of the Lunatic Asylum for Imbeciles, and Institution for Idiots at Newcastle, the Lunatic Receiving House at Darlinghurst, and the Bay View Asylum, Cook's River Road (Private Establishment). The total number of patients in these Institutions on 31st December last was 156, and the expenditure from the Treasury was 3,042*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*

Charitable Institutions.

Under this heading hospitals will be found to be 42 * in number and are spread over various portions of the Colony. The two principal instiutions are the Sydney Infirmary and St. Vincent's Hospital.

In the former of these, the year commenced with 205 patients, admissions numbered 1,840, there were 1,581 discharged, 232 died, and 232 were left at the close of the year. Out-door relief was afforded to 5,972 persons. The total receipts amounted to 12,792*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.*, of which the Government provided 10,265*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, and voluntary contributions furnished 2,527*l.* 6*s.* The year's disbursements were 10,730*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*

St. Vincent's Hospital received 289 patients during the year, discharged 264, and lost 21 by death. There were 21 patients in this establishment on the 31st December, 1870, and 25 on the same date of 1871. The number who received out-door relief was 500. The receipts were voluntary contributions, which amounted to 756*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* The expenditure was 706*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* The admissions into the remaining hospitals of the Colony numbered 2,063, and out-door relief was afforded to 635 persons. The support rendered to these hospitals from voluntary contributions amounted to 11,563*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*, supplemented by 7,099*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.* from the Government. The total expenditure was 16,924*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*

The three Government Benevolent Asylums, viz. those situate in Hyde Park (Sydney), Parramatta, and Liverpool, had 1,009 inmates on 31st December, 1870; the admissions during the year were 1,397, the number discharged was 1,120, and 211 deaths occurred, leaving 1,075 on 31st December last. The total cost of maintenance was 11,960*l.* 9*s.*, which was borne by the public purse. The other asylums, three in number, had 175 inmates on 31st December last, besides relieving a large number of persons during the year.† The

* 4 are closed.

† 6,620 cases, and 67 persons.

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receipts were 6,160*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*,—viz. 4,268*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* from Government, and 1,892*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* from voluntary contributions. The disbursements amounted to 7,626*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*

The next return treats of orphan and industrial schools, of which there were 11. Of this number, viz. the Protestant Orphan School, Roman Catholic Orphan School, Nautical School Ship 'Vernon,' and Industrial Schools for Girls, are Government Institutions, the disbursements for the year being 13,033*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.*

The Asylum for Destitute Children at Randwick numbered 809 inmates on 31st December last. The total receipts for the year were 11,954*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*, the Government aiding to the extent of 9,203*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, and voluntary contributions amounting to 2,751*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.* The disbursements were 11,533*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*

The total receipts of the Deaf and Dumb and Blind Institution were 3,402*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*; obtained from voluntary contributions to the amount of 952*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*, and 2,450*l.* from Government; of this latter sum 2,000*l.* was in aid of the building fund.

The Sydney Female School of Industry shows that the receipts were 954*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, supplied by the public.

The Ragged Schools are also supported by voluntary contributions, which amounted to 641*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*

Under the head of Miscellaneous are the Home Institution, House of the Good Shepherd, Sydney Sailors' Home, Sydney Female Refuge, and City Night Refuge and Soup Kitchen, all of which are supported by voluntary aid; the receipts amounting to 3,636*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*, and disbursements to 4,507*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*

The total amount received during the year by the several Charitable Institutions, inclusive of Lunatic Asylums, was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
By the Government - - -	89,165	14	8
From voluntary contributions - -	25,675	9	10
	£114,841	4	6

The total disbursements amounted to 110,536*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*

Rates of Wages.

The average rate of wages for the year was as follows:—

	Without Board and Lodging per diem.	With Board and Lodging. per annum.
Carpenters - -	8*s.* to 9*s.*	£50 to 70
Smiths - - -	„	„
Wheelwrights - -	„	„
Bricklayers - - -	8*s.* to 10*s.*	60 to 80
Masons - - -	8*s.* to 9*s.*	„
Farm labourers - -	—	26 to 30
Shepherds - -	—	26 to 35
Females—		
Cooks (plain) - -	—	£30
Housemaids - -	—	20 to 26
Laundresses - -	—	26 to 30
Nursemaids - -	—	13 to 25
General house servants, dairy women, &c.		20 to 26

PART II.

RELIGION, EDUCATION, AND CRIME.

The first Table* which we find under this heading is a return showing the number of ministers of religion, registered under the Acts 19 Victoria, Nos. 30 and 34, to be 501; churches and chapels numbered 924, in which accommodation is provided for 181,914 persons; the average attendance at churches and chapels, inclusive of dwellings used for public worship, was 176,596. There is an increase in the number of registered ministers of 18, and there are 17 additional churches and chapels. The amount received by each denomination as salaries and allowances, and from the Church and School Estates Fund, will also be seen in this return. The total sum was 22,976*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*

Sunday Schools.

The number of these schools was 933, being an increase of 73 on the year 1870; there were 6,049 teachers, as against 5,674 in the previous year. With regard to the number of children on the register, it appears that the returns are too incomplete to admit of the total being given. The number of scholars in some of the principal denominations is as follows:—Church of England, 22,874; Roman Catholic, 15,089; Presbyterian, 5,727; Wesleyan Methodist, 12,613; Baptist, 770; Primitive Methodist, 1,720. The average attendance of scholars had decreased from 52,327 in 1870, to 51,447 in 1871.

Day Schools.

There were 561 private schools in the Colony, in which 826 persons were engaged in tuition. The number of scholars was 5,919 males, and 7,781 females.

The Orphan Schools afforded instruction to 567 children, being a slight decrease on the previous year. The total number in Industrial Schools was 202, being also a decrease on the year 1870. The children under instruction at the Asylum for Destitute Children at Randwick has increased from 764 in 1870 to 791 in 1871.

The Council of Education had 878 schools, which is an increase of 32 on the preceding year. The scholars had increased from 59,814 to 62,295, and the teachers from 1,200 to 1,225. The total amount paid from the Public Treasury towards the support of these schools was 110,732*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*; and the sum of 46,777*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* was received from voluntary contributions, fees, and other sources. The grand total expended was 157,509*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* The following figures will show the number of schools, with teachers and scholars:—

* The Tables are not printed.

	No. of Schools,	No. of Teachers.	No. of Scholars.
Public schools - -	378	609	31,348
Provisional schools - -	181	150	5,185
Half-time schools -	96	40	1,544
	655	799	38,077
Denominational schools—			
Church of England -	104	204	11,517
Roman Catholic -	86	162	9,447
Presbyterian - -	18	33	1,772
Wesleyan - -	14	24	1,326
Hebrew - - -	1	3	156
	223	426	24,218

In the University of Sydney were 45 students, the total expenditure being 6,548*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*, of which 5,000*l.*, was provided by the Government.

St. Paul's College had 5 students, and St. John's 9; the former receiving 500*l.* from the public purse, and the latter 780*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; the amount obtained from fees and other sources being 477*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* and 300*l.* respectively.

Crime.

There were 1,504 confinees in the various gaols of the Colony at last Michaelmas, being a decrease of 26 on the previous year. The total number of commitments for trial in the Supreme and Circuit Courts was 345, being an increase of 93 on the year 1870. From these committals 239 trials resulted, of which 165 convictions were obtained, and 74 were acquittals.

The commitments in Quarter Sessions cases numbered 739, as against 785 in the previous year. The number of trials was 637, the convictions were 463, and there were 174 acquittals. The whole number of commitments for the year was 1,084; of trials, 876; of acquittals, 248. The ratio which the commitments bore to the estimated population at the middle of the year is 2·129 per 1,000.

The return of "Summary Jurisdiction" shows that 18,025 persons were taken into custody, 12,987 were convicted, 1,119 were committed for trial, and 3,919 were discharged.

From the following figures will be seen the number of convictions and committals, &c.:—

	Convictions.		Committals.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females	Total.
For offences against the person	3,483	1,124	250	42	4,899
„ „ property -	1,123	270	750	75	2,218
Drunkenness - - - -	5,238	1,749	2	—	6,989
	9,844	3,143	1,002	117	14,106
	12,987		1,119		

The number of convictions for drunkenness is 1,590 in excess of the previous year.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PART III.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Imports and Exports.

The next returns in this work relate to the imports and exports for the year. I shall first call attention to the imports, the total value of which amounted to 9,609,508*l.*, being a large increase on the year 1870, as the following figures will prove:—

	1870.	1871.
	£	£
From United Kingdom - -	3,200,706	3,252,617
„ British Colonies - -	3,724,292	5,528,104
„ Foreign States - -	832,283	828,787
Total - - - -	£7,757,281	£9,609,508

There was an increase, therefore in the imports from the United Kingdom to the amount of 51,911*l.*, from British Colonies of 1,803,812*l.*, and a decrease from foreign states of 3,496*l.*

The general total of the increase was 1,852,227*l.*

The Australian Colonies and New Zealand imports were valued at 5,009,354*l.*, distributed as follows:—

	Seaward.	Overland.	Total.
	£	£	£
Victoria - -	1,206,604	491,632	1,698,236
South Australia	589,727	135,098	724,825
Queensland -	1,596,231	1,559	1,597,790
Tasmania - -	107,002	—	107,002
New Zealand -	881,501	—	881,501
	£4,381,065	£628,289	£5,009,354

The imports from these Colonies for the past year exceeded in value those of 1870 by 1,858,524*l.*

The increase from each Colony was—

	£
From Victoria - - - -	544,541
„ South Australia - - - -	358,345
„ Queensland - - - -	356,913
„ Tasmania - - - -	16,175
„ New Zealand - - -	582,550
	£1,858,554

The exports for the year were valued at 11,242,032, being a large increase on the previous year, as will be seen on comparison:—

	1870.	1871.
	£	£
To United Kingdom - -	2,492,640	4,378,281
„ British Colonies - - -	5,194,508	6,508,802
„ Foreign States - - -	302,890	357,949
	£7,990,038	£11,245,032

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The increase in the value of exports to the United Kingdom was 1,885,641*l.*, to British Colonies 1,314,294*l.*, and to Foreign States 55,059*l.*

The value of exports to the Australian Colonies and New Zealand was as follows :—

	Seaward.	Overland.	Total.
	£	£	£
Victoria - -	1,549,845	3,027,714	4,577,559
South Australia - -	65,914	424,732	490,646
Queensland - -	692,590	7,820	700,410
Tasmania - - -	23,049	—	23,049
New Zealand - -	285,463	—	285,463
Western Australia -	528	—	528
	£2,617,389	£3,460,266	£6,077,655

As compared with the previous year, the increase or decrease in value to these Colonies was—

	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
To Victoria - - - - -	1,994,007	—
„ South Australia - - - -	140,399	—
„ Queensland - - - -	60,649	—
„ Tasmania - - - - -	—	3,506
„ New Zealand - - - - -	88,438	—
„ Western Australia - - - -	528	—
	£2,284,021	£3,506

The imports seaward were in excess to the value of 1,196,453*l.*
Exports overland were in excess to the value of 2,831,977*l.*
The grand total excess of exports over imports was 1,635,524*l.*
Imports were at the rate of 18*l.* 17*s.* 6½*d.*, and exports 22*l.* 1*s.* 9½*d.* per head of the population.

Shipping.

The total number of vessels which entered the various ports of the Colony was 1,891, of a burden of 706,019 tons. Of these, there came from—

	No.	Tons.
Great Britain - - - - -	67	69,008
British Possessions - - - -	1,589	545,446
Foreign States - - - - -	235	91,565
	1,891	706,019

The nationality of the vessels was—

	No.	Tons.
Great Britain - - - - -	210	151,716
British Possessions - - - -	1,571	483,340
Foreign States - - - - -	110	70,963
	1,891	706,019

The number of vessels which entered each port of the Colony was as follows :—

	No.	Tons.
Sydney	1,046	409,063
Newcastle	745	277,959
Grafton	18	2,271
Eden	27	12,330
Richmond	33	3,802
Tweed River	22	594
	1,891	706,019

Outward-bound vessels numbered 2,123, the burden of which amounted to 794,460 tons, and their destinations were—

	No.	Tons.
To Great Britain	53	56,661
„ British Possessions	1,668	568,254
„ Foreign States	402	169,545
	2,123	794,460

The nationality of the vessels cleared from the ports of the Colony was—

	No.	Tons.
Great Britain	234	167,597
British Possessions	1,779	564,098
Foreign States	110	62,765
	2,123	794,460

The Ports from which these vessels cleared were as follows :—

	No.	Tons.
Sydney	971	394,289
Newcastle	1,040	376,378
Grafton	28	3,397
Eden	35	16,354
Richmond River	28	3,472
Tweed River	21	570
	2,123	794,460

There were 20 new vessels built during the year, of an aggregate measurement of 1,798 tons.

PART IV.

MILLS AND MANUFACTURES.

In the old settled districts of the Colony the number of mills used for grinding and dressing grain was 137, the same as the previous year. Of these, 117 were worked by steam, 6 by water, 7 by wind, and 7 by horse-power. In the pastoral districts there were 53, as against 50 in the previous year. In 43 steam-power was used, 8 were driven by wind, and 2 by horse-power.

Manufactories, Works, &c.

The progress in the number of these has been very marked. In the year 1862, where 859 only are to be found recorded, the returns show that in 1871 there were 6,827 in the Colony.

The manufacture of woollen cloths and tweeds has been conducted in 7 establishments, which have turned out 267,196 yards, being an increase of 79,726, yards.

Return No. 92 shows that the manufacture of soap and candles was carried on at 31 establishments, being 3 in excess of the number in the year 1870. The quantity of soap produced was 80,652 cwt., and of candles 13,568 cwt.; the increase in the former article on the previous year was 15,740 cwt., and in the latter, 2,439 cwt.

There were 33 manufactories of tobacco, being an increase of 5 on the preceeding year. The quantity manufactured was 6,366½ cwt., which falls short of the amount recorded in the same return of the year 1870.

Mills for the crushing of sugar-cane had increased from 27 in the previous year to 57 in the year 1871. The greatest number are situate on the Macleay, Manning, and Richmond Rivers, and at Port Macquarie. The total quantity of sugar manufactured in the Colony was 35,836 cwt., a very large increase on the previous year—22,262 cwt.

The quantity of molasses produced was 113,151 cwt. The sugar refineries turned out 155,394 cwt.

Boiling-down establishments number 44, in which 306,799 sheep, and 133 horned cattle, were slaughtered, from which 73,737 cwt. of tallow was produced.

PART V.

PRODUCTION.

Return No. 102 exhibits the quantity of gold received at the Mint from the gold-fields of the Colony, and the comparitive quality and value of such gold as assayed.

The total quantity received was 296,928 ounces, of the value of 1,143,781*l.*, which, as compared with the year 1870, gives an increase of 380,126*l.* The figures which follow show the quantity and value of gold received from each of the gold districts:—

	Quantity.	Value.		
	oz.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Western - -	209,393·92	811,026	8	2
Southern - -	73,262·43	278,045	11	3
Northern - -	14,271·66	54,709	16	6
	296,928·01	£1,143,781	15	11

Of the total quantity supplied, the Western District contributed about 70 per cent., the Southern 25 per cent., and the Northern 5 per cent.

Comparing the quantity from each district with the year 1870, the following is the result:—

	1870.	1871.	Increase.
	oz.	oz.	oz.
Western - -	128,634·61	209,393·92	80,759·31
Southern - -	55,757·92	73,262·43	17,504·51
Northern -	14,271·79	14,271·66	—

The average price of gold from each of the districts was—Western, 3*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*; Southern, 3*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*; Northern, 3*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*

On referring to the next return, it will be seen that the value of gold received into the Mint exceeded that of any year since 1864.

Miners' Licences.

A large increase is found in the issue of miners' licences, the number being 21,452, as against 14,329 in the year 1870, making an addition of 7,123.

Coal.

There were 23 coal mines in operation during the year, from which 898,784 tons were obtained, of the value of 316,340*l.* As compared with the year 1870, there was a decrease of 3 in the number of mines, but an increase in production of 30,220 tons, and a decrease in value of 495*l.* The quantity of coal exported was 565,429 tons. Our largest customers were Victoria, with 193,370 tons; next, New Zealand, 91,419 tons; then South Australia, 77,028 tons; United States, 53,741 tons; Hong Kong, 43,446 tons.

Copper.

Under the head of Copper Mines, it will be seen that 667 tons were raised, which were valued at 47,275*l.* During the year this industry has doubled itself.

Kerosene.

Here also is a marked increase on the return for 1870; the quantity of shale produced being 14,700 tons, as against 8,580 tons. The value increased from 27,570*l.* to 34,050*l.*

Agriculture.

The number of freeholders of land exceeding 1 acre (*excluding those engaged in pastoral pursuits*) was 19,236, and of leaseholders, 9,938. In the former class there was a decrease of 516, and in the latter of 1,848.

The acreage in possession of freeholders was 4,986,388, of which 278,247 acres were in cultivation, 2,635,899 acres were enclosed but uncultivated, and 2,072, 241 acres were unenclosed. Under each of these divisions there was a decrease on the previous year. Leaseholders occupied 2,868,679 acres, the cultivated portion of which was 139,604 acres, being a decrease of 12,231 acres. The extent of land enclosed but not in cultivation was 1,285,605 acres, which was an increase of 94,229 acres on the previous year; and the area of unenclosed land was 1,443,469 acres, the decrease being over half a million of acres.

The total extent of land under cultivation was 417,851 acres, being a decrease of 16,161 acres on the year 1870.

The following comparitive table shows the increase or decrease in

NEW SOUTH WALES.

the acreage of the various crops under cultivation, as well as the produce, for the years ending 31st March, 1871 and 1872.

Crops.	1871.		1872.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.
Wheat - - -	147,997	999,595 bush.	154,030	2,229,642 bush.	6,033	1,230,047 bush.	—	—
Maize - - - -	107,178	2,340,654 ,,	119,956	4,015,973 ,,	12,778	1,675,319 ,,	—	—
Barley - - -	4,650	47,701 ,,	3,461	55,284 ,,	—	7,583 ,,	1,189	—
Oats - - - -	10,683	119,365 ,,	13,795	280,887 ,,	3,112	161,522 ,,	—	—
Cotton - - -	2¼	11 lbs.	—	—	—	—	2¼	11 lbs.
Rye - - - -	1,295	11,691 bush.	1,342	17,339 bush.	47	5,648 bush.	—	—
Millet - - -	359	4,747 ,,	254	4,346 ,,	—	—	105	401 bush.
Potatoes - - -	13,927	34,118 tons.	14,770	44,758 tons.	843	10,640 tons.	—	—
Tobacco - - -	225	700 cwt.	567	4,475 cwt.	342	3,775 cwt.	—	—
Arrowroot - - -	84	22,897 lbs.	26	26,454 lbs.	—	3,557 lbs.	58	—
Sorghum and Imphee	182	100 tons.	32	173 tons.	—	73 tons.	150	—
Sugar-cane {productive	1,475	13,567 cwt.	1,994	*24,824 cwt.	519	11,257 cwt.	—	—
Sugar-cane {unproductive	2,607	—	2,399	—	—	—	208	—
Hay - - - -	65,403	69,601 tons.	51,805	77,459 tons.	—	7,858 tons.	13,598	—
Vines {for wine-making	2,371	342,674 gals.	2,466	413,321 gals.	95	70,647 gals.	—	—
Vines {for fruit for table use - -	533	1,046 tons.	601	508 tons.	68	—	—	538 tons.
Vines {unproductive -	1,599	—	1,084	—	—	—	515	—
Gardens and orchards	17,168	—	14,520	—	—	—	2,648	—
Green fodder - -	43,991	—	31,903	—	—	—	12,088	—
All other - - -	5,240	—	2,789	—	—	—	2,451	—

* Exclusive of the produce of 748 acres of sugar-cane grown in the Grafton district, which could not be ascertained.

On investigating these figures, it is very satisfactory to note the great increase in nearly every kind of agricultural produce. The yield of wheat was 1,230,047 bushels in excess of the previous season; maize, 1,675,319 bushels; oats, 161,522 bushels; potatoes, 10,640 tons; hay, 7,858 tons. It must be remembered, however, that this

large increase in production follows on a period most disastrous to the farmer, by reason of floods and rust. The average yield per acre of wheat was between 14 and 15 bushels; of maize, over 33 bushels; of barley, nearly 16 bushels; and of oats, 20 bushels. Potatoes yield slightly over 3 tons to the acre.

The importation of wheat and flour (seaward) amounted in value to 541,648*l*.. which is in excess of the year 1870 by 154,422*l*. The localities from which these breadstuffs were obtained is as follows:—

	£
Great Britain	150
Victoria	40,197
South Australia	462,309
Queensland	2,252
Tasmania	10,819
New Zealand	16,955
United States	8,545
New Caledonia	300
South Sea Islands	61
Hong Kong	60
Total	£541,648

It will be seen by these figures that South Australia alone supplied this Colony with wheat and flour to a value approaching half a million sterling.

The following Table* shows the importations of wheat and flour, with estimated value and quantity, and rate per head of the population, for the last five years.

Maize formed a large item in the value of exports of grain, being 100,412*l*., of which Victoria was a customer to the extent of 87,519*l*. The increase on the previous year in the total export of this article was 36,413.

Liens on Growing Crops.

The numbers of these securities have advanced from 213 in 1870, to 266 in 1871. The amounted secured was 13,170*l*., which makes an increase of 3,125*l*.

Vineyards.

The area of land devoted to the cultivation of the vine has decreased from 4,504 acres in 1871, to 4,152 acres in 1872, of which 3,067 acres were productive. The quantity of wine obtained was 413,321 gallons, which gives an excess of 70,647 gallons on the last season. Of brandy, 1,765 gallons were produced, and 508 tons of grapes were used for table purposes.

Live Stock.

The returns show that there is a total decrease on the year ended 31st March, 1872, of every description of live stock.

In the old settled districts, the number of horses was less by 13,227. Horned cattle were in excess of the previous year by 50,914. Sheep were less in number by 241,236, and pigs by 18,357. *In the pastorial districts*, horses were fewer by 20,270, horned cattle by 231,122, and pigs by 11,516. The only increase in these districts is in sheep, which shows an increase of 211,348.

* See Table on next page.

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Year.	Population.	Imports.				Colonial Produce.					Value of Imports and Colonial Produce per head of Population.	Exports.			Value of Exports per head of Population.
		Wheat.	Flour and Bread.	Estimated Value.	Value of Imports per head of Population.	Wheat.	Average price per bushel in Sydney.	Estimated Value.	Value of Colonial Produce per head of Population.			Wheat.	Flour and Bread.	Estimated Value.	
		bushels.	tons.	£	£ s. d.	bushels.	s. d.	£	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	bushels.	tons.	£	s. d.
1867	447,620	755,973	16,455	402,279	0 17 11	1,433,807	*5 0	358,452	0 16 0		1 0 11	78,480	112	23,580	1 0
1868	466,765	609,011	20,242	546,979	1 3 5	1,787,085	6 6	580,802	1 4 10		2 8 3	12,974	117	6,981	0 3
1869	485,356	782,657	18,470	469,272	0 19 4	3,209,959	6 0	960,287	1 19 6		2 18 10	74,894	6,960	114,799	4 8
1870	502,861	571,278	21,250	411,490	0 16 4	999,595	†5 3	262,393	0 10 5		1 6 9	73,206	6,092	97,644	3 10
1871	519,182	1,043,474	20,796	578,242	1 2 3	2,229,642	5 10	650,311	1 5 0		2 7 3	60,596	4,911	86,685	3 4
Average		752,478	19,442	481,652	0 19 10	1,930,217	5 8	562,449	1 3 2		2 2 3	60,030	3,638	65,938	2 7

* Ranged from 5s. to 5s. 3d.; calculations made on 5s.

† Ranged from 5s. to 5s. 6d.; calculations made on 5s. 3d.

The number of each description of live stock for the years ended 31st March 1871 and 1872, was as follows:—

Year ended 31 March, 1871.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
1871 - - - - -	337,597	2,195,096	16,308,585	243,066
1872 - - - - - -	304,100	2,014,888	16,278,697	213,193
Decrease - -	33,497	180,208	29,888	29,873

Mortgages on Live Stock.

The amount of capital invested on live stock was 703,333*l.*, being 137,250*l.* less than the previous year. The number of mortgages was 314. The security consisted of 1,509,672 sheep, 126,750

horned cattle, and 5,239 horses. There were 70 discharges of mortgages during the year, representing 333,536*l.* NEW SOUTH WALES.

Liens of Wool.

The sum of 451,926*l.* was advanced on preferable lines of wool, which numbered 328, which comprised 4,113,108 sheep. As compared with 1871, there was an increase of 11 in the number of lines, of 701,639 in the number of sheep, and of 80,695*l.* in the amount advanced.

PART VI.

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL.

The total amount of coin and bullion held by the Mint and banks of the Colony on 31st December, 1871, was 2,522,387*l.* As compared with the previous year, this shows an increase of over a million sterling, and is not exceeded by any year in the decennial period.

Paper Currency in Circulation.

The amount of notes of the several banks in circulation on 31st December, 1871, was 753,785*l.*, as against 742,490*l.*, being an increase of 11,295*l.*

Return No. 124 is a general abstract of the average assets and liabilities, and of the capital and profits of the banks of the Colony.

Savings' Bank.

The total number of depositors in the New South Wales Savings' Bank on 31st December, 1871, was 23,427, and the deposits amounted to 931,688*l.* In the Government Savings' Bank * there were 1,039 accounts opened, which represent money to the amount of 15,782*l.* The accounts closed were 87, the amount withdrawn being 1,555*l.*, leaving a balance at credit of depositors on 31st December, 1871, of 14,227*l.*

Branch Royal Mint.

The value of gold received into the Mint was 2,887,601*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, being an increase of 1,668,871*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* on the previous year. The following comparative table will show from whence these supplies were obtained:—

	1870.			1871.			Increase.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
New South Wales -	552,743	16	8	935,040	17	11	382,297	1	3
Victoria - - -	131,055	16	9	599,667	6	4	468,611	9	7
New Zealand - -	218,754	16	3	857,201	1	5	638,446	5	2
Queensland - - -	301,719	14	2	469,614	19	7	167,895	5	5
Tasmania - - -	—			4,239	1	11	4,239	1	11
New Caledonia - -	—			1,316	17	11	1,316	17	11
Coin - - - -	14,456	0	11	20,521	11	4	6,065	10	5
	1,218,730	4	9	2,887,601	16	5	1,668,871	11	8

The value of coin issued was 2,814,000*l.*, and of bullion, 56,418*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*, in all 2,870,418*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*, which is in excess of the previous year by 1,627,120*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* The revenue derived from

* Opened 1st September.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

this establishment amounted to 18,887*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, being an increase of 7,328*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* on the year 1870.

Railways.

The total length of railways was 344 miles, which carried 1,067,686 passengers, at a charge of 125,881*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* The goods traffic amounted to 741,984 tons, which yielded a revenue of 225,826*l.* 11*s.* which, with a sum of 3,613*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* from rents and miscellaneous receipts, brings up the total receipts to 355,321*l.* 17*s.* The expenditure for working expenses was 197,065*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.*, leaving a net balance to earnings of 158,256*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* As compared with the year 1870, the increase in the passenger traffic was 10,319 persons, and in the amount taken as fares, of 16,030*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* In the carriage of goods there was a decrease of 24,539 tons, but the receipts were in excess by 36,638*l.*

On the Southern Line the net earnings were 53,480*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, showing an increase of 18,924*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* on the year 1870.

The Western Line also presents an addition to its revenue of 28,263*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* The Richmond Line shows an excess of expenditure over receipts of 1,234*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*

On the Northern Line the net receipts amounted to 40,444*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, which was an increase of 9,360*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* on the previous year. Return No. 129 shows the receipts and expenditure of the lines of railway for the last ten years.

Electric Telegraphs.

The number of stations for the transmission of messages was 89, and the wire traversed a distance of 5,579 miles.

The number of telegrams increased from 173,812 in 1870, to 218,530 in 1871. The advance in the receipts for telegrams was 626*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*; the amount received in 1870 being 32,037*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.* against 32,664*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* in 1871. The total construction of the various lines has cost 199,245*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*, which is an average of 35*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* per mile.

Post Offices, Letters, &c.

The total number of post offices in the Colony at the close of the year 1871 was 570, as against 562 in 1870.

The revenue for the year was 84,890*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; the previous year being 84,440*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*

The expenditure shows a decrease of 1,352*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*

The total expenditure was 85,398*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*, which is in excess of income by 508*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*

The number of inland letters transmitted was 5,803,700. Foreign letters numbered 1,127,100, and town letters 578,700—in all, a total of 7,509,500, being an increase of 426,000 on the year 1870.

Inland newspapers were 2,831,700 in number, and those forwarded to foreign parts 1,160,400—together 3,992,100. The increase in the number of newspapers transmitted was 177,400.

Public Accounts.

The general account current of the revenue and receipts of the Colony in the year 1871 are not included in this volume, as they will be presented to Parliament with a special report from the Auditor-General, in terms of section 38 of the Audit Act of 1870.

Military and Naval.

The total amount expended by the Colony in the year 1871 on on account of its defences, and for naval and military services, was 65,913*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*

PART VII.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Public Works.

The expenditure on public works of the Colony, during the year 1871, was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Railways—			
Lines open for traffic - -	82,543	4	7
„ not open „ - - -	264,715	17	1
Electric telegraphs - -	7,791	12	10
Roads and bridges - - -	155,719	15	8
Harbours and rivers - -	67,425	7	11
Buildings, &c. - - - -	82,206	16	0
	£660,402	14	1

This sum is in excess of that expended in the year 1870 by 118,110*l.* Furniture for the several departments cost 3,132*l.*

Meteorology.

Return No. 148 is an abstract of meteorological observations, during the years 1871.

The highest temperature recorded was on the 22nd December, which was 103·8, whilst the lowest was on the 12th September, and was 73·6.

The number of days in the year on which rain fell was 141, as against 178 in the previous year. The total rainfall for the year was 52·147 inches, being a decrease of 12·068 inches on the year 1870.

Mortgages.

The nnmber of mortgages on land registered during the year was 1,478, which secured the sum of 697,440*l.* The discharges for the same period numbered 646, and represented the sum of 318,168*l.* There were also 248 conveyances under mortgage, which show a value of 148,340*l.*

Real Property Act.

There were 269 applications to bring land under the provisions of this Act. These embraced an area of 14,519 acres, valued at 197,338*l.*

The number of Crown grants issued was 3,108, comprising an area of 138,973 acres, for which the sum of 162,107*l.* was received by the Government.

The amount advanced on mortgage of real estate was 442,240*l.*

The revenue derived from this Act and paid into the Treasury chest has gradually increased year by year, from the sum of 411*l.* in 1863 to 2,577 in 1871.

The total area of land under the provisions of this Act on the 31st December last, was 1,495,975 acres; the value of which, as declared to on the first bringing of land under its provisions, and the price paid to the Treasury, amounted to 3,751,471*l.*

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Insolvencies.

The number of schedules filed during the year was 544, of which 515 were voluntary and 29 compulsory.

The liabilities shown in these schedules were 325,941*l.*, a sum less than one-half of the liabilities of the year 1870. The assets were stated to be 124,288*l.*, showing a deficiency of 201,652*l.*

Publicans' Licences.

The number of licenses issued to publicans during the year was 2,242, being 55 in excess of the previous year.

Volunteer Corps.

The total number of Volunteers on the last day of December, 1871, was 4,050, as against 3,203 for the year 1870. The principal increase is 179 in the Artillery, and an addition of four corps to the Cadets, which numbered 844, being an increase of 653.

There was also an Engineer Corps established, with a total strength of 59 men.

The total expenditure was 9,288*l.*, which was a slight decrease on the previous year.

The Naval Brigade shows a total strength of 250 men, and an expenditure of 3,916*l.*

The Permanent Military Force consisted of 237 men in the whole, and was maintained at an expense of 5,376*l.*

Political Franchise.

The total number of electors on the rolls of the several electorial districts of the Colony, and the estimated number of electors on the gold-fields who vote on the production of their mining or business licences, was 150,798, being an addition of 15,292 electors on the returns of 1870.

Land Sales.

The area of land alienated in the settled districts of the Colony was 11,544 acres, which realized the sum of 18,060*l.*, or about an average of 1*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* per acre. The number of acres alienated in the pastorial districts was 77,093, the purchase money amounting to 81,898*l.*, or about 1*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* per acre.

The general totals under these two divisions were 88,637 acres, and 99,959*l.*, being a decrease on the previous year of 5,636 acres and 12,855*l.* respectively.

There were also 358,682 acres conditionally sold, which were comprised in 4,751 selections. The gross amount realised for deposit, balance of purchase money, and interest, was 145,068*l.*, which is the largest amount yet received in any one year since the year 1862, when the Act 25 Victoria, No. 1, came into operation. To 31st December, 1871, there have been 37,216 selections; the area of land taken up was 2,849,391 acres, which produced a sum amounting to 993,548*l.*

Having now brought under notice those portions of the returns which I deem to be most important, I beg to subscribe myself,

Your obedient servant,

E. G. WARD,

Registrar-General.

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No. 8.

REPORT FROM OFFICERS IN NATIVE DISTRICTS.

The Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER to OFFICERS in NATIVE DISTRICTS.

SIR, Alexandra, June 3, 1872.

As the General Assembly is about to meet, I have to request that you will, with the least possible delay, be good enough to furnish a general report of the natives in the district in which you are stationed; the state of native feeling generally; their moral and physical condition; their attention or otherwise to agricultural pursuits; the progress of public works undertaken by the natives, and any other information which may be interesting to the country.

(Signed) DONALD M'LEAN.

No. 1.

The RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Mangonui, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

Resident Magistrate's Office,
SIR, Mangonui, June 21, 1872.

I have the honour to report that the natives of this district are quietly and peacefully pursuing their usual avocations; their feeling towards the Government has always been of the most friendly, and indeed dependent, character, for they know perfectly well that their geographical position, as well as their comparative paucity of numbers, would compel them to look outside for support, and they appreciate the fact that the Government can and does afford the most trustworthy support. From my first intercourse with them, September, 1848, I have never had occasion to doubt this.

I can venture to report a more favourable state of morality. Very few cases have been brought before the courts; they seem to live in more friendly intercourse, and with one or two exceptions, which I think are naturally accounted for (about land), no disputes or quarrels have occurred.

I am glad to report upon what may be called enthusiasm which has seized the people relative to schools; that at Pukepoto continues to afford general satisfaction, the children improve wonderfully. Mr. Masters, I was informed by Colonel Russell, was to receive 20*l.* per annum extra from the Government in lieu of Timoti Puhipi's contribution. At Awanui the children are also getting on well. Colonel Russell informed me that authority was to be given me for 10*l.* for

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this school, which I have not received. At Ahipara the schoolhouse will be completed in about six weeks. At Parengarenga the natives have the timber ready (or most of it), and are only waiting to know what the Government will do for them.

The people at Kaitaia and Victoria want to start a school, and are prepared to do as at Ahipara and Parengarenga. I have written on this subject to Colonel Russell. I am not at all sanguine that this enthusiasm will last; I fear the people will fall off in their contributions, and I cannot help regretting that the native contribution has been dispensed with at Pukepoto, as it will form an example for others to resist or refuse to pay after expense has been incurred in the erection of buildings, &c., &c. The people have been much occupied in kauri gum digging, and though this pursuit is no doubt profitable to them, I fear it is fraught with evil to the races of the north, generating, as it must do, from the exposure and want of proper food, all sorts of disease. This call upon their energies is much greater than in former years; there is more competition, consequently they are induced by the high prices generally ruling to work all through the year, and in the winter months great mortality ensues. I have been often, more particularly of late, urged to represent to the Government the advisability of appointing a medical man to attend them; we are unfortunately circumstanced in that respect, there is not a medical man in the district. Mr. Trimnell, it is true, is farming at Pukepoto, but he will not attend to medical practice except he receives a very high fee, and is very inattentive; consequently, he is beyond the reach of the inhabitants. I am satisfied that if the Government could give a salary of say 150*l.* to a medical officer, that he would make a good income by general practice amongst the Europeans. In agriculture there has been a marked improvement, ploughs, carts, and European implements and style of farming are much adopted. A much larger quantity of wheat has been sown this year than for years back; post and rail fencing, laying down grass, &c., which show a vast improvement in their views on this subject. Many of the young men here have taken contracts to draw timber from the bush with their own bullocks, and show an unmistakable desire to share with the Europeans the profits of industrial pursuits.

With regard to public works, all that have been undertaken by the Road Boards of Ahipara and Mangonui, the natives have shared in the profits; taking contracts from the Board to form roads, make culverts, &c., and have performed their work well. Under the Provincial Government, money has been spent on the bush road to Victoria Valley, the contracts being almost entirely taken up by the natives, but the sums spent here have been comparatively very small. Much disappointment is felt throughout the district, by both Europeans and natives, that no work was undertaken, as was generally understood at the end of last Session would be, by the Public Works Board. Mr. Katene, member of the Northern Native Districts, came round with Mr. Marsden Clarke, but no works have been undertaken, to the great loss and disappointment of the people, if I except a bridge at Oruru, the contract for which has been taken by a young half-caste, George Marshall, for 375*l.* The natives have taken a deep interest in the project for improving the district by roads, as it was under-

stood was contemplated by the Government; I have never seen them so earnest before; I trust they will not be disappointed in the ensuing year.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. B. WHITE, Resident Magistrate.

No. 2.

The RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Hokianga, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR, Hokianga, June 27, 1872.

In reply to your Circular letter of the 3rd instant, desiring me to furnish a general report on the natives in this district, I have the honour to state that during the past few years there has been a decided improvement in the whole of the people residing on the Hokianga River and the West Coast adjoining.

As regards intemperance, which at one time threatened the ruin of the whole native population, and which is still the greatest evil which exists amongst them, it is pleasing to be able to state, from statistical returns, that the quantity of spirituous liquors consumed in this district during the present year is equal to only one-half of the quantity consumed during the same period in 1870, and is less by one-sixth than that consumed during the same period in 1871; and this, too, in the face of a largely increased European population.

There is a rapidly increasing desire amongst the people for the establishment of schools in their midst, for the education of their young men and children in the English language, as they begin to see that without such knowledge they will hold but a poor position in the future of the Colony.

They appear to fairly acknowledge their position as British subjects, having no sympathy with the King movement, and expressing, in no measured terms, their utter abhorrence of the actions of the rebel natives, such as Kereopa and Te Kooti. They obey all summonses and orders of court, take great interest in the election of members of both General and Provincial Assemblies. Tauas and native runangas, once so frequent, are fast becoming things of the past, disputes amongst themselves being brought before the court, and, in all cases, the decisions are accepted as final. Land disputes, which a few years since would have plunged the whole district in war, have been, by the advice of the officers in charge of the district, taken into the Native Lands Court, and have there been settled in a manner thoroughly satisfactory to the various claimants. (I allude more particularly to the disputed cases at Whirinaki and Te Taheke.) It is only a few days since that a large section of the Ihutae, residing at Mungamuka, in the most public manner possible, gave notice that the old Maori law of *tapu* no longer existed in that large district; this, in itself, is an evidence of the great advance these people are making towards civilization.

With regard to the increase or otherwise of the population, I am hardly in a position to speak, having been here only four years, but

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am inclined to believe that it is decreasing in number; and it is in a great measure to be accounted for by the want of proper attention to the children in infancy, and, for the past few years, to the frequency amongst them of low fever during the winter season, induced, to a considerable extent, by the excessive fatigue and exposure endured by them whilst working on the gum fields.

Agriculture is, I am sorry to say, at a very low ebb, the people growing barely sufficient for their own consumption, and, with the exception of a small quantity of wheat grown at Waima and Te Taheke, no breadstuff is grown in the district. The gum fields, again, may be mentioned as the cause of this, as the people always feel that when short of supplies they have the gum digging to fall back upon as a means of livelihood, but it often leads to their having to endure great privation and suffering, and the money which they so earn is not always spent in the necessaries and comforts which they require, but, through the inducements held out to them by unprincipled Europeans, a considerable portion is dissipated in spirits, which, while it impoverishes the people, is at the same time laying the foundation of disease and death. On some of the gum fields not far from the district, I am informed, large quantities of spirits are so disposed of; and it would be a boon to the native if this great evil could be remedied.

A large section also of the population earn their entire living by timber squaring and bush work. Their superiority in this kind of labour enables them to make large sums of money, and they, as a rule, present the appearance of a healthy, well-cared-for people.

With reference to public works, roads have been made from Waima to Omanaia, and from thence to Whirinaki, which are of great public utility to both races; and it is further proposed to open up the means of communication by connecting Omanaia with the township of Hokianga, thus effecting easy land communication between that place and Russell.

To speak of the loyalty of these people seems almost superfluous, when we see around us so many of them who fought and bled in our cause during Heke's war. There are, doubtless, a few turbulent spirits, who would, if they could, cause mischief and trouble, and who are a constant source of anxiety to those whose duty it is to maintain law and order amongst them, but, as a whole, these people may be said to be as loyal to the Government of the country, and as desirous to preserve law and order in the district, as the Europeans around them. In fact, I may safely say that this populous locality, the most distant from the seat of Government, will be acknowledged to be as peaceful and orderly a native district as any in the Colony.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) SPENCER VON STURMER, R.M.

No. 3.

The RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Waimate, to the ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY, Native Office.

Resident Magistrate's Office,
SIR, Waimate, Bay of Islands, June 29, 1872.

I have the honour to transmit herewith a Report I have been called upon to make as to the general state of this district, and to request you will be good enough to present the same to the Honourable the Native Minister.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWD. M. WILLIAMS, R. M.

Resident Magistrate's Office,
SIR, Waimate, Bay of Islands, June 25, 1872.

In reply to your Circular of the 3rd instant, requesting me to furnish the Government with a general report of the natives of this district, I have the honour to offer the following remarks.

In reference to the state of native feeling generally, I have much pleasure in testifying to that continued loyalty and friendly feeling which, for many years has characterized the Ngapuhi people; and, in speaking of Ngapuhi, I include those of the Rarawa residing on the northern banks of the Hokianga River, and on the West Coast as far as Whangape, the northern boundary of the district under my charge.

There exists in the minds of many among this people a desire for improvement, a feeling in favour of law and order—the full establishment of which, however, must necessarily be a work of time. It cannot be expected that the natives should at once abandon the customs of their forefathers and unanimously adopt those of another race. One party may advocate the change, whilst another party may oppose what they consider an innovation upon their rights and privileges; thus it is, that although an advance has been made, much yet remains to be accomplished and many difficulties to be overcome. There are turbulent spirits amongst them, who, adhering to the ancient law of the land, will at times take the existing law into their own hands, opposing, as much as possible, every effort made for their improvement, and taxing, in no small degree, the patience of those who have official dealings with them; but I believe the majority desire to see this state of things abolished and civilization firmly established. The naturally warlike disposition of the Maori character does sometimes manifest itself in a declaration of open warfare, but great care is observed, even under these circumstances, not to involve either the Government or the settlers in their quarrels. Two instances of this kind have occurred in the district during the present year, both originating in land disputes, and both happily quelled without loss of life, the contending parties agreeing to carry their claims into the Native Land Court, there to be adjudicated upon and settled. Reports of these cases have already been forwarded to

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the Government. On the whole, I venture to report that the general condition of the district is one of progress—slow, but substantial.

I can testify to an improvement in the moral condition of the natives, not perhaps, to the extent which may have been anticipated, but yet in advance of their former condition. More respect and decorum is manifested in their general demeanour, more attention paid to the common usages of civilized life; a greater regard shown for the decisions given in the courts of justice. Wooden cottages in place of *raupo* are increasing in number in their villages; their lands are inclosed in a more substantial manner, and greater care is bestowed upon their stock. This is attributable partly to the example shown by the industrious settlers, and partly to the beneficial effect of the Native Land Court, in settling their endless disputes of ownership, individualizing property, and securing to them their lands under direct title from the Crown.

The greatest evil prevalent amongst them, and a cause of much regret with their European friends, is the extent to which many of them give way to habits of intoxication. This, however, is not to be considered universal. In some of their villages the introduction of spirits has been entirely prohibited, and cases may be quoted of notorious drunkards having become reformed characters; others also are endeavouring to break off their habits of intemperance, and if the temptation could be kept from them there would be hopes of still further reformation. But these hopes are frustrated, and the energies of their friends paralyzed by the efforts which at the present time are being made to inundate the district with spirits. Large quantities of Auckland distilled spirits are being carted into the interior, and not only sold wholesale by the Europeans, but distributed over the gum diggings, and there retailed by Maori vendors employed for the purpose. The result is obvious. These spirits being brought to their very doors and sold at a much cheaper rate than the foreign article, the temptation becomes too great for resistance; the Maori falls an easy victim, and the European drives a lucrative trade. But the extent of this evil has yet to manifest itself; with a scarcity of provisions consequent upon the general indifference, and in some instances total failure of their crops, and the winter before them, these natives in selling their gum for spirits are parting with that which would procure them the food and clothing they so much require. Many I fear will in consequence be driven to extremities, and sickness and death will be the result.

I am able to assert that not only the Resident Magistrates in this district, but also those among the unpaid Justices who are active in the discharge of the duties appertaining to their office, have done their utmost to hinder the illicit trade complained of, but owing to the insuperable reluctance to lay informations or to give evidence unless compelled, they have been able to effect little more than the enforcement of somewhat greater caution in the illegal sale of spirits.

The physical condition of the natives at the present time is better than it was some six or eight months back, when they were suffering from a low gastric fever then prevalent amongst them, and from the effects of which several deaths occurred, principally among children. Influenza has been general, but not severe. One prevailing cause of

sickness is their constant exposure to wet and cold on the gum diggings, the miserable shelter they provide, and the low diet to which they subject themselves, added to which in some instances is the effect of intemperance upon constitutions ill prepared by exposure and privation to resist the attacks of any epidemic which may visit the district.

Their agricultural pursuits are confined principally to the cultivation of the potato, kumara, corn, and uwhi, on which they bestow the greatest attention, all other employments being relinquished until their crops are in the ground. The same attention is given to harvesting these crops. The Maori has in a great measure to depend upon his own exertions for the amount of provisions he may be enabled to secure; hence the care and attention always bestowed upon these cultivations. The growth of wheat until lately had been altogether abandoned, but is now occupying their attention. A fair sprinkling of grain was produced last year, and a much greater proportion of land is being sown at the present time.

The progress of public works undertaken by the natives is reported, by those who have the supervision of these works, as being satisfactory; many are at the present time employed upon the roads, some under contract, others as day labourers, and are executing the work in a satisfactory manner. Many are engaged in the timber trade in Hokianga and Whangaroa, at which employment they have the opportunity of making excellent wages. Numbers are scattered over the gum diggings, of the extent of which some idea may be formed by the enormous quantity of gum imported into Auckland from the northern ports.

The question of education has lately been discussed by the natives of this district, and taken up by some with an earnestness which promises success, but many do not as yet discern its full importance; they recognise the need of some tuition for their children, but not the duty of contributing towards the funds necessary for providing that tuition, being too much led away with the idea that all should be done for them. This feeling, however, it may be hoped, will in time give way to the example shown by others amongst them, who have already largely contributed towards the erection of places of worship, and who are equally ready to assist in the establishment of schools for their children.

The opposition formerly offered on the part of the natives to the occupation of their lands by the settlers is fast giving way to a disposition to sell and lease. Good arable land has already been leased, and large blocks are being offered for sale. This indicates an increasing confidence in the minds of the natives towards their European neighbours, and an evident desire to see the country occupied.

Much interest is manifested by them as to the probable result of reported overtures made to the Government by the Waikato natives, and a hope generally expressed that successful negotiations may be established and a lasting peace secured to the Colony.

In conclusion, I would remark that whatever may be the faults and failings of this people, their loyalty towards the Government and friendship for the settlers will, I think, be acknowledged as an

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indisputable fact; and I venture to affirm that for the last seven and twenty years no portion of the aboriginal inhabitants of this Colony has caused the Government less trouble and anxiety than the two powerful tribes of Ngapuhi and the Rarawa.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) EDWD. M. WILLIAMS, R.M.

No. 4.

E. W. PUCKEY, Thames, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR, Native Office, Thames, July 9, 1872.

In reply to your Circular of the 3rd ultimo, I have the honour to report that during the last three years the feeling of the natives towards the Government has been steadily improving; the firm and conciliating policy which has been carried out through the whole Colony has born good fruit, and this district has not been behind other districts in this respect. Those who three years ago were rabid Hauhaus, jealous of the name of Queen or Government, appear now to be only waiting a fit and proper opportunity of gracefully relinquishing their adherence to the King party. A retrospective glance at what took place at your visit to Ohinemuri in December, 1869, as compared with the incidents of your recent visit in company with His Excellency the Governor, will better explain than any words of mine can the great change that has gradually, and perhaps almost imperceptibly to themselves, been coming over their thoughts and feelings; and not at Ohinemuri alone has this been the case. Hauhaus on the east coast of the Thames Peninsula, as well as at Piako, have kept pace with their neighbours and colleagues at Ohinemuri; whilst in other parts of my district, those who have all along been friendly evince the most lively satisfaction, not only that their Hauhau relatives and neighbours are ready to forsake their fanaticism, but at the prospect of an early settlement of those difficulties which have so long disturbed the peace of this country.

Physical and Moral Condition.—The natives appear to be just so far advanced in civilization as to make them aware that there are certain advantages likely to accrue to them by their becoming members of a community with their pakeha neighbours, yet at the same time they are unwilling to give up their natural rights, and share with their pakeha friends the privileges of society. It is, however, satisfactory to notice their growing appreciation of the advantages of education; they are becoming daily more alive to the great disadvantage it has been to themselves that they so much neglected, in the earlier years of the Colony, to avail themselves of the scanty means placed at their disposal for the education of their children. I trust ere long to establish a school for the education of native children at Ohinemuri.

Agricultural Pursuits.—It was quite encouraging last spring, in visiting several native kaingas here and there in this district, to see the natives on so much greater a scale than usual preparing land for the reception of their crops. Many of them, poor themselves, pur-

chased ploughs and harness, whilst some have spent considerable sums of money in the purchase of cows, and are going in for stock breeding on quite an extensive scale. But there is a vice growing fast upon them—I allude to drunkenness; there is rarely a meetiug which takes place in which there is not a very considerable quantity of ardent spirits consumed, whilst I can only instance the case of Te Moananui as a solitary instance of a reformed hard-drinker: this chief, who for several years was a notoriously hard-drinker, has with unusual strength of mind entirely given up that pernicious habit, and is now a teetotaler.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. W. PUCKEY,
Native Agent, Thames.

No. 5.

The RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Raglan, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR, Raglan, June 12, 1872.

I have the honour to forward the report requested in yours of the 3rd instant concerning the feeling of the natives of this district. I am able to say that they are almost universally obedient to our laws; doubtless there are Kingites among them, but when on this side of the line they hold their peace. The boundary line between what is termed "King" and European territory, is well understood and respected by the Kingites themselves; and so long as things remain in their present position, I doubt not they will keep within the south side and try to confine the Europeans to the north of it; but as there has been really no unkindly feeling (here) it may be fairly presumed that, peace being established, the two races will mix again as they did years ago. As regards their religious, moral, and social condition, it is impossible to speak favourably, although there are of course exceptions among them, whose morality and religious feeling are indubitable. In number, they are steadily on the decrease, among other causes from migration. Physically, so far as my observation goes, they are not the fine race they were; I mean that if you wanted to mention a large athletic man you would have to pick from the passing (ageing) generation, and you do not see any large Maori families. The finest men amongst them are half-castes, and when prolific, the women are almost invariably connected with the pakeha. In agricultural pursuits they are retrograde, not growing enough for their own consumption; and I fear that they will have a very hard time of it this winter. The past season has been an exceptional one—a very bad one—and their crops having nearly failed, the natives will have to depend upon their salaries, the pipi bank, casual labour at the flax mills, and their pigs. I may remark, as favourable, the large number of pigs brought to Raglan for sale, although the major part of them came from the King country; also, the great increase of the cultivation and consumption of the Torori, which the Raglan storekeepers say has greatly superseded the European tobacco, among

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themselves and also many of the Europeans. There are no public works undertaken by natives here, but if the Government could give them work it would not only be an immense boon in their present needy state, but it would prevent much pig and cattle stealing, and (I would most respectfully remark) would be the very best means of breaking through the reserve of the Kingites.

When the Raglan and Karakariki road was expected to have been commenced, and Tawhiao objected to the natives working, it became a question whether they would obey him or not; and there seemed little doubt that many of his adherents would have gone to work with our natives, and that the majority by degrees would have joined in.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. HARSANT, R.M.

No. 6.

MAJOR MAIR, Alexandra, to the UNDER-SECRETARY, Native Department.

SIR, Alexandra, July 2, 1872.

In accordance with Circular dated June 3rd, 1872, conveying instructions, relative to a "General Report on the natives in the "Waikato District," I have the honour to forward the report attached.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. G. MAIR, Official Correspondent.

The tribes embraced in this report are Waikato, Ngatimaniapoto, and Ngatiraukawa. The first, it must be borne in mind, consists of a number ot sections or divisions, most of them in point of numbers worthy of being called a separate tribe. Portions of almost each of these divisions remained loyal while the greater number took up arms against us. Upon the occupation by the troops of the Waikato country in 1863–4, the former portion, now called "Kupapa," remained in their villages at Raglan, Aotea, and other places on the West Coast, and along the banks of the Waikato and Waipa Rivers, while the latter, generally known as the "Kingites," took refuge in Ngatimaniapoto and Ngatiraukawa country, which they continue to occupy. It is with this King party, including all Ngatimaniapoto, the largest half of Waikato, and a portion of Ngatiraukawa—as being by far the most important — that this report will have principally to do.

From the close of actual hostilities in 1864, until the year 1870, the attitude of the Kingites was threatening, but since that period they have been gradually assuming a friendly tone, and now manifest a desire to come to terms with the Government. This change of feeling is attributable to more causes than one. Since the war an unsettled feeling has pervaded them, and as I have heard them express it, they have become "weary of uncertainty and wish to build

"themselves permanent houses;" and again, they are beginning to recognize the fact, that year by year, as their supporters fall off, they are becoming isolated from the other tribes. Not long since they could count upon the allegiance of part of Ngtituwharetoa (Taupo) and all Ngatiraukawa (Upper Waikato River). The former have turned road makers, and upon the occasion of the Honourable Native Minister's visit to Waikato last month, the latter taking advantage of the presence of Hauauru, Taonui, Paiaka, and other leading Kingite chiefs, formally announced that they were for the "Government," and claimed the right to deal with their own lands, and with the construction of roads, &c., without reference to Tawhiao. No better proof could be given of the decreasing influence of the King party than is shown in a remark made by Hauauru Poutama, an important Ngatimanipoto chief, who, when Mr. M'Lean said that they must not interfere with other tribes in the matter of roads, &c., replied "we "will still try to dissuade them, but if they will not listen we shall "leave them alone!"

The present conciliatory policy of the Government, while being the least expensive, has most effectually weakened the King party, and has removed a great deal of the soreness that existed between them and the Europeans. At the same time it must be admitted that there are influences at work to prevent a friendly settlement. Perhaps the most important of these is a feeling of national pride, to which may, in a great measure, be attributed their opposition to the progress of public works. When I was impressing upon Hunia Te Ngakau—one of their cleverest men—the mutual advantages to be derived from these works, he replied "you need not tell me what I know quite well, but we oppose you in this direction because these things benefit you in a much greater degree than they do the Maori, and each mile of road or telegraph that you construct makes you so much stronger than us!" Another important, though recent, reason is the Todd murder; they know that that affair must be settled, and it causes them considerable uneasiness; they look upon it as a blunder, and each chief disclaims responsibility in the matter. That it was a political murder I do not doubt, for it was intended to prevent the probability of a reconciliation between Tawhiao and the Government, but I am inclined to rest the sole direct responsibility of it with a small violent party at Kawhia. It was supposed that Manuwhiri had been concerned in it, and for this reason the Government made a distinction between him and Rewi, who is undoubtedly the more straightforward of the two. At his late meeting with the King people Mr. M'Lean told them that the Government did not intend to let the question of atonement for this murder drop, but would look to Tawhiao as their head to free his people of this offence, as well as the lesser one of harbouring Te Kooti. It has been urged upon Tawhiao by some of his advisers, that if he were to make peace with the Governor he would die soon after, as Hone Heke, Ranghaeata, Wi Tamehana, and Te Ua Haumene did! I do not think that Tawhiao attaches much importance to this warning, but it serves to show how ready the unfriendly party are to use any argument that may serve. I believe, however, that the moderate party is the strongest, and that the ultra party must ere long give way. It is

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simply a question of time; the problem will be solved by themselves, without any pressing on our part. They will no doubt make the best bargain that they can, and in so doing will only follow the example of civilized nations, but I am satisfied that in the end they will be content to receive much less than their first demands. In the meantime, although there has not been any actual peace-making, intercourse with the lately hostile natives is increasing rapidly; last month, for instance, several hundred bushels of maize, with numbers of pigs and some cattle, were brought from the immediate vicinity of Te Kuiti, and offered for sale in the various European settlements, and there is an increasing desire to cultivate for market. Seed wheat, ploughs, and other agricultural implements are eagerly sought for, and there is some probability of a move down to Te Kopua and its neighbourhood as being more convenient, besides possessing a flour-mill and a large breadth of land famous for producing wheat. Wiremu Kumeti (now called Whitiora) has declared that he will open the harbour of Kawhia to European trade; some opposition will no doubt be offered by Tapihana and the violent section previously alluded to, which may occasion delay, but the bare fact of Kumeti having stated openly that he will do so, is sufficient to show the change that is taking place. Another noticeable fact is the increasing desire on the part of the King natives for employment by the settlers; last summer and autumn a very considerable number found work about Rangiaowhia, Kihikihi, and Orakau in harvesting and other field work, and I have been informed gave general satisfaction.

In the physical condition of the natives in this district I do not notice any marked alteration. There was a good deal of sickness last winter, and I imagine that pulmonary diseases are very wide spread, for they are constantly complaining of "Rewharewha," a term applied to all complaints of the throat and chest, but no great mortality has, I believe, occurred among them for some time. Arrangements have been entered into for the erection in Alexandra of a building to be used as a hospital, whenever they chose to bring their sick, and the services of a medical man have been secured: but I am not very sanguine of much good resulting, for as a rule it is only when a case is hopelessly given up by their own "tohunga" that they will place a patient in proper hands.

The moral status of the Waikato tribes, so far as the Kupapa are concerned, is, I think, on a par with the other tribes in the North Island. Among the Kingites, Hauhauism has brought about great laxity, and the absence of anything like law or order has had a very demoralizing effect upon the young men. The thirst for strong drink is growing upon the Waikato natives. Among the Kupapa—Ngatihaua are very dissipated, while the craving for spirits manifested by the Kingites is something very serious; were they placed in a position to obtain it in quantities, I believe that they would indulge to an alarming extent.

No native schools have been established in the Waikato since the war, but I am of opinion that the time is approaching when the attempt may be made.

It cannot be doubted that Hauhauism is fast dying out. The form

of worship in use among the Kingites, when weeded of the strings of meaningless words retained from the Karakia of Te Ua, does not present anything objectionable. It consists in a great part of supplication to the Deity to guard and preserve Tawhiao.

The natives of this district have not as yet been employed upon any public works. Arrangements were made last summer for the construction of a road from the Waipa to Raglan, but in deference, I believe, to the wish of Manuwhiri, that road-making by natives should not commence pending the long-talked of meeting between the Governor and Tawhiao, the Kupapa, who were to have done the work, advised that it should not be proceeded with at present. It is to be hoped, however, that it will be carried out next summer, for the present road is one of the worst in New Zealand.

Of the Kupapa natives—distinctively—there is little to be said. Their condition has not, I think, changed in any marked degree during the last few years: taken altogether they are not very prosperous. Unlike other tribes, they have no revenue arising from kauri timber, gum, pastoral lands, fisheries, &c., but have to depend solely on what they can grow. Their intercourse with the Kingites has become much more free of late; in fact, with a few exceptions, great cordiality exists between the friendly chiefs and the King party; but I am afraid that some of our Kupapa friends, with the view of increasing their own importance, endeavour to keep up a state of agitation, which is occasionally productive of mischief; while, on the other hand, there are some who are sincere in their desire for a permanent peace, and are ever ready to do all in their power towards carrying out the policy of the Government.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. G. MAIR.

No. 7.

The RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Maketu, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

Resident Magistrate's Office,
Maketu, July 15, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honour to report, for the information of His Excellency's Government, that the feeling existing among the native hapu of this district is of an amicable nature; and I am of opinion that a considerable improvement has taken place in that respect since the peace-making between Ngatipikiao and Ngatiwhakaue, which occurred in March, 1871, when the natives assembled to "tangi" over the remains of Rewi Tereanuku. There have been no disputes relative to the title of land since the investigation took place before me between Ngatipikiao and Ngatipukenga relative to the Waipumuka, a report of which I forwarded to the Government in March, 1871, excepting a continuous quarrel between Tapuika and Ngatimoko about Canaan. I was in hopes this had been satisfactorily arranged, but information has just reached me that there is every probability of another outbreak taking place between them.

As I have previously stated, there have been no disturbances

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relative to land excepting with regard to the Canaan block. Still, I am afraid that at some future period these disputes will again arise. I wish therefore to draw the attention of the Government to the advisability of adopting some plan by which the tribal claims, if not the individual ones, might be amicably settled and their titles and boundaries decided on and defined.

As regards the moral and physical condition of the natives, I have to state that it has been generally remarked that since my arrival here petty pilfering has not been so prevalent as before my appointment; but I wish to impress upon the Government the evident benefit that is accruing to the rising generation from the advantages derived from the schools established in this district. The results arising from the Maketu school are too well known to the Government to require to be expatiated on by me; but there is no doubt these results would be very considerably increased if means were adopted whereby the attendance of the children could be more regularly secured.

The parents of the children and the natives generally are very anxious to adopt some measures by which the foregoing could be effected; and I am given to understand that their idea is to give land whereon food could be grown for the children, they residing permanently in some building attached to or in the close neighbourhood of the schoolhouse, as the evident cause of the irregularity in the attendance of the children is their want of accommodation and means of living during the time their parents are absent planting food, &c.

On the occasion of the visit of the Hon. the Defence Minister to Maketu, the subject of apportioning a piece of land for school purposes was brought before him, but no decision was arrived at. Since then I have heard it spoken about on several occasions, but the various blocks mentioned by the natives have been in dispute for years, and if through these means any one of these pieces could be unanimously decided on, it would be a very satisfactory termination to troublesome disputes; but I am afraid there is very little hope of its being eventually carried out.

The school at Matata is, as compared with the Maketu school, of very recent formation; but I notice that the children have made very good progress. The numbers attending there are considerably larger than those who go to the Maketu school. The average daily attendance at the latter school during the last twelve months was 22·72, while at the former it was 42·24. This may be accounted for thus: that at Matata the children of the different hapu all go to the one school, whereas it is only the children of Ngatiwhakaue parents who attend the school at Maketu. Another school for the Ngatipikiao children has been opened at the Taheke, Rotoiti, but it has only now commenced working, so that I am not in a position to make any report on it.

With reference to the children attending the Matata school, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the scarcity of food experienced by them. Te Keepa Te Hurinui, the chief of the Tuhourangi tribe, and I, have been consulting seriously on the subject, and I see no means of obviating the difficulty, excepting the Government interfere in their behalf, or that the children be allowed to disperse to their several kaingas, where they will be able to procure

food more easily than at Matata; but this would materially affect the advantages they have hitherto derived from attending the school. I may remark that Te Keepa is willing to form a piece of road approaching and fronting the township of Richmond in liquidation of any advances so made by the Government.

Relative to the agricultural pursuits of the natives of my district, I will allude more particularly to those resident at Maketu. During the last few years they have discontinued planting in this neighbourhood, excepting a few small patches of kumara, Ngatiwhakaue having planted at Te Puke, up the Kaituna river, and Ngatipikiao at Te Hiapo and other places inland, distant some fifteen or sixteen miles from Maketu. The reason I assign for this is the quantity of pigs and horses they have running at large, and their disinclination to fence. I wish to remark that the last season being so exceedingly dry, their potato crop was a complete failure, so much so, that they are at present in a very distressed state from the want of food, and it is not at all improbable that this scarcity of food may have some influence on the health of the natives, as many of them are suffering from disease, and several have recently died.

With respect to the public works undertaken by the natives, I have much pleasure in reporting that considerable improvements have already been made between Maketu and Rotoiti, and still further alterations are now in progress at the Waiwhakareto and Te Hunua, where they were urgently required. The approaches to the site of the intended bridge at the Taheke have been completed, and other substantial improvements have been made between the Taheke and Rotorua. The contract formerly entered into between Ngatiwhakaue and the Government for constructing a road from Waiteti to Te Hemo has been lately completed under the supervision of Mr. Jordan. Another contract has also been completed by Ngatirangiwewehi and other hapu between Waiteti and the original contract entered into between Ngaterangiwewehi and the Government for the forest section of the road. I have still further pleasure in stating that the contract lately entered into between Tuhourangi and the Government between Te Hemo and the site of the intended bridge on the Waikato, after having been in treaty for some months, is now in rapid course of progress, more so than any other contract entered into by natives during my experience, and I have no hesitation in stating that, weather permitting, in the course of six weeks from this date the said contract will be complete, bridges excepted.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) F. E. HAMLIN, Resident Magistrate.

No. 8.

The RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Opotiki, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

SIR, Opotiki, Bay of Plenty, June 24, 1872.

I have the honour to submit the following general report on native matters in the Opotiki district for the last half year.

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During the time I have been here I have visited nearly all the settlements, some of them several times, and have endeavoured to make myself as conversant with the natives as practicable in so short a time.

The health of the natives has been good during the past half year, they have been visited by no epidemic, and the deaths have been few. The most noticeable death is that of Renata Te Purewa, a Chief of Ruatahuna, which occurred at Whakatane last month. Children appear to be plentiful and healthy, and I certainly see no signs, here at least, of the Maori race becoming extinct.

Hauhauism appears to be dying out, and I think the natives are now recovering from the licence and immoral habits engendered by it, and in a great measure have returned to their former customs and ideas. Christian baptism is now sought for their children by those who only a few years or months ago professed Hauhauism, and Christian worship is now the custom at many settlements.

No crimes of any importance, which could be traced to the native race, have been reported to me. I regret to have to state, however, that drunkenness is very prevalent amongst them, the chiefs in some cases being lamentably addicted to it. There is also just now a great wish to establish amongst themselves licensed houses for the sale of fermented and spirituous liquors.

The land in the district is very productive, and large quantities of wheat, maize, and potatoes are grown annually by the natives, but the crops during the past season have been but scanty, more especially the potatoes and maize, the former of which were injured by the drought, and the latter by a severe gale of wind. As an instance, the natives at Te Kaha and the neighbourhood last year had four hundred bags of maize for sale, while this year, from a greater breadth sown, they do not expect to have half that quantity. With the Whakatohea and Ngaitai, the result was the same. The Kumera crop, on which the Bay of Plenty natives in a great measure depend for food is, however, a good one, and will make up to some extent for the deficiency of the others. The natives, although I hope there will be no actual want amongst them, must necessarily be in somewhat straitened circumstances this winter and following spring.

A good many ploughs have been purchased by the natives lately, and I believe a greater breadth of wheat than usual will be put in this seed time.

The Whanau a Maru, and the Whanau a Te Hutu tribes, had five boats engaged in whaling last season, and I am informed netted no less than 200*l.* after paying all expenses. Incited by this, all the coast tribes, including the Ngaitai, intend to follow this pursuit during the coming season.

The Ngaitai are now engaged under the Public Works Department in improving and altering the road from Opotoki to Torere and beyond it. They have only begun the work this month, so that but thirty to forty chains of road formation is all that they have yet completed.

It has been found impossible for the surrendered Urewera to commence the contemplated road work at Ohiwa until the wet season has passed.

Some natives are employed by the contractor, together with Europeans, on the Opotiki and Otara road.

The Whanau a Apanui, Whanau a Maru, and Whanau a Te Hutu tribes, are very desirous of being employed on public works, and I trust the Government may see their way to allow them to earn money in this manner, either on the Opotiki and Poverty Bay road, or on any other which may be determined on. I would point out that in consequence of the deficiency of the harvest, natives are very anxious to obtain work, and will accept it at lower wages than they would in a more fruitful season.

I have observed house building and other native industries going on in every settlement; and in some cases large and ornamental buildings are being put up. Te Tatana has his large Runanga house at Maraenui nearly completed.

The opinions I have heard expressed by the natives all point to a continuance of the friendly relations which at present exist between them and the Government. There is no doubt that those formerly in rebellion appreciate the blessings of peace after years of hardship and privation.

Of the natives, lately noted rebels, but now living quietly and in apparent contentment, I may instance Hira Te Popo, who now lives in the town belt of Opotiki, cultivating the hundred acres of fine land reserved for him by the Government, and sending his children to an European school. Wi Hura, who is living with the last named, Nepia Tokitahi, lately the lieutenant of Te Kooti, who is at Opape under the surveillance of Wiremu Kingi; Hemi Kakitu, who is living at Ohiwa, and who has applied to purchase back from the Government a favourite spot of the lately confiscated land; and Erueti Tamaikowha, who often visits this settlement from Te Waimana, where he is turning his attention to the rearing of cattle.

The service of native orderlies lately instituted by the Government from Mangapowhatu and Ruatahuna to Opotiki, has hitherto been well maintained, and will, I believe, tend to the preservation of friendly relations with the Urewera and other inland tribes. I cannot say that I believe the inland Urewera are well disposed towards the Government, but at least they have ceased to be in active opposition.

A considerable number of natives, including representatives from all the tribes, either have gone, or are going to a large meeting at Mataahu, for which invitations have been issued by Major Ropata Wahawaha.

All through the district I have found the natives civil and obliging in manner, hospitable to Europeans, and very willing to submit all their disputes (not only those with Europeans, but also those amongst themselves) to my decision, and to abide by that decision when given.

The principal subjects I have heard discussed at the native "kainga" lately, are representation, land disputes, road boards, and confiscated lands. Great attention is given to native parliamentary representation. Some are of opinion that they are not fairly represented in Parliament in proportion to their numbers, and that there should be more Maori members in the House, whilst others are of opinion that the Parliament should not deal with matters affecting

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the native race only, but that these should be arranged by a Native Council. Akin to the subject of the Native Council is the question, "How are native land disputes to be settled?" of which there are more than one of long standing in this district (as where are there not?) Many natives think that the "Council," if established, could deal with these cases. The Native Land Court is unpopular, on account of the expense attending it, which in native idea is unnecessary; they also think its machinery cumbersome.

The Native Road Boards Act passed last session has not in any instance been adopted in this district; indeed the natives feel much aggrieved at having to pay road rates where they own land within a European road district, as at Opotiki. It is not surprising that they should kick at their first experience of direct taxation, but they will doubtless in time acknowledge the benefits of the system.

There has been an attempt lately (originated by some Napier natives) to get up a movement among the Bay of Plenty tribes to petition Parliament to return them all the confiscated lands, and it was endeavoured to organize a political agitation for this purpose. I am able to say that this movement met with no success from Opotiki to the East Cape, even amongst those whose lands have been confiscated. In the Urewera country and at Whakatane this question is being much discussed, but the majority of the natives I have no doubt fully understand that it is not only inexpedient, but impossible, for the Government or the Parliament to return them the confiscated lands as a whole, and I need hardly say that I have lost no opportunity of impressing this on them.

Much of my time since my arrival in this district has been spent in the endeavour to establish schools, under the Native Schools Acts. I have urged on the natives, to the best of my ability, that they should establish and support these schools, because I am really of opinion that educating them will do much to preserve the peace of the country in future years, by enabling them to fight out their battle with the white man in the forum instead of in the field. I am happy to say that I have made considerable progress in the matter of schools. The Ngaitai have given a site and promised subscriptions towards the erection of a school-house; the Te Kaha natives have done the same; the Whakatohea have set apart a site for the same purpose, and promised labour, and though unable from their poverty (caused by the war) to give money now, I doubt not that as they recover themselves they will be able to pay for their children's education. I hope in a short time to be able to report that these three schools are in operation.

A school has lately been established in Opotiki, which, although it is to be carried on under the Provincial system, and not under the Native Schools Acts, will yet be attended by natives as well as Europeans. Though at present only in a temporary building, and not fully in operation, already ten Maori children attend this school, and I hope to see the number augmented shortly.

In conclusion, perhaps I may be permitted to express my surprise and pleasure in visiting the settlements of the natives on this coast, to find them so much more prosperous than their countrymen in other

parts of the island. Notwithstanding that these tribes have all felt the effects of the late struggle, whether engaged in it or not, yet I find them in possession of many horses, carts, ploughs, boats, indeed of everything which a Maori counts as wealth. There are exceptions to this rule, among the latest surrendered, but those will doubtless recover themselves rapidly, however much the late poor harvest is against them. In no district have I seen greater apparent good feeling to exist between the races notwithstanding the recent struggle.

If Cook's name for this district is not too appropriate this year, it is yet more so than such hastily given names usually are, and if the blessing of peace is vouchsafed, years of prosperity should be before both Europeans and natives in the Bay of Plenty.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) HERBERT W. BRABANT,
Resident Magistrate.

The Hon. the Native Minister,
Wellington.

No. 9.

The RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Waaipu, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR, Waiapu, 30th June, 1872.

I have the honour to submit the following Report of the present state of this district, and the general condition of the natives. During the last six years the Ngatiporou have continued loyal and peaceful, and there is no reason at present to expect that they will become otherwise. A review of this period, however, does not furnish much ground for the hope of any material progress in industry, religion, morality, or in energy. As long as they remain isolated and deprived of the example shown by Europeans of enterprise, industry, and perseverance, so long must they continue ignorant of all that renders a race prosperous and contented. All that they attempt to procure is a bare subsistence, often very insufficient, and disease and death follow the actual want of wholesome food. The small quantity of produce which the more industrious grow is at the mercy of any trader who may come among them, who charges probably one hundred per cent. for his goods, and allows them not more than two-thirds of what they could get if there was a regular market. This is not very encouraging to industry. Greater scarcity of food prevails this year than I have known since 1865, and I fear there will be much sickness and distress before the next crops come in.

The question arises, what is the best remedy for this, and what can be done which will conduce most to the benefit of the natives? I would suggest that if the prejudices which have been instilled into their minds, against selling or leasing land to Europeans, could be overcome, and that the Government could succeed in procuring by purchase a block of land sufficient for the formation of a special settlement, it would be the greatest boon, it would serve as a model, and prove a strong incentive to native industry.

It has lately been represented to the Native Minister by the Bishop of Waiapu that there is no land in this district available for European

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settlements. This statement I beg leave respectfully but most emphatically to contradict. There is a country rich and fertile, sufficient to support hundreds, one-fourth of which, to say the least, the Maoris can never occupy.

A scheme such as I have suggested, taken in connection with the formation of roads, the purchase of Te Awanui, with its tolerably available harbour, would soon render this hitherto sluggish and nearly useless district thriving and prosperous, and a valuable aid to the revenue.

The establishment of schools is likely to prove of great benefit to the rising generation, and with a few exceptions, chiefly among the Hauhaus, much interest is expressed in their success. As bearing, however, upon the subject of which I have written, a chief at a late meeting quaintly observed, "What will be the use of teaching the children English unless we have Pakehas for them to talk to?"

The building of the school-houses here and at Tuparoa has been unfortunately delayed, owing to some mistake on the part of the contractor, but he is at present completing the building at Uawa (Tolago Bay), and will shortly proceed with the others.

The "Sale of Spirits in Outlying Districts Act" is not working as could be desired. Formerly I succeeded in restricting the number of licenses to five between Poverty Bay and Hick's Bay. During the past year there have been many applications, numerously signed, and backed by the assessors, three of whom were themselves applicants. Last year I made the attempt to reduce the original number of five by one, but I was met by a perfect storm of remonstrance, and a petition was presented, signed by nearly two hundred, against it. A short time ago I begged the Reverend Raniera Kawhia to give me his assistance in checking as much as possible the habit of drinking spirits on all occasions. He replied that he did not see how he could; that on the occasion of his wife's death, and the consequent "tangi," he was obliged to supply a quantity of spirits, otherwise he should have had no guests. It is in vain to attempt to make Maoris better than their fellow-mortals. At the very time that the Bishop of Waiapu stated in a letter to the Hon. the Native Minister that he was very sure that Morgan would set his face against the system of licensing the sale of spirits, Morgan's own application for a licence was lying in my house.

I allude to this subject because it has been attempted to cast a reflection upon the Resident Magistrate for encouraging the system, whereas it has been quite the contrary.

Of the land feud between Morgan and Wikiriwhi, to which I have so frequently had occasion to draw your attention, I have nothing further to report. The opportune arrival of the Hon. Native Minister, and the withdrawal of Morgan for a time, will, it is to be hoped, prove the means of allaying the bitterness which has so long existed.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. H. CAMPBELL, R.M.

No. 10.

The CIVIL COMMISSIONER, New Plymouth, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR, New Plymouth, July 6, 1872.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular letter of 3rd June, 1872, calling for a general report on the natives in this district. As regards the state of feeling generally of the natives, there is a very great improvement in reference to their social condition and manner towards Europeans, with whom they mix freely, and manifest a desire to be friendly with. The fact of a tribe from the interior (Ngatimaru) offering land for sale to the Government is, I submit, evidence of the improved state of feeling—a tribe that has for years past allowed their district to be a refuge for the disaffected, is now exerting itself to establish permanent allegiance to the Government, and to get European settlers to settle among them. But the main point to which I have to draw attention, and to which I have frequently referred in previous correspondence, is the predominating influence which has been gradually acquired by Te Whiti, of Parihaka, an influence by no means confined to this district, but which is now very great in some of the most distant parts of the Island, and is notably exercised over Tawhiao himself. The general character of Te Whiti's influence is altogether in favour of peace, and I think that if he be prudently dealt with it will continue so, as it corresponds with the essentially peaceful and amiable nature of this singular man. But although in this point of view Te Whiti's ascendancy is productive of good, it must be observed that his abhorrence of the idea of further conflicts between the races, or amongst his own people, has caused him, and will no doubt continue to cause him, to put his veto on any proposal—such as that for the completion of the telegraph and road through his district, if he finds it likely to be productive of disunion. Moreover, his total want of sympathy with, and, indeed, his scorn for our action of progress, and the absence of all desire for money, or anything that we have to offer him, renders it difficult, if not hopeless, to obtain any active aid from him in facilitating the work of colonization. At the same time, I wish it to be understood that I have no reason whatever to think that he will be found obstructive to proposals which may be generally approved by his people in that direction.

In reference to the moral condition of the natives of this district under my charge, I can only report that there is no sign of any progress towards more civilized modes of life, and this, taken in connection with the weakening of such restraints as were formerly imposed by tribal influence, can leave little room for hope that their moral condition is in any way improving. With the exception of some small efforts made by a few natives in the district, north of the town, nothing is being done in this district towards the education of native children, partly owing to their real poverty, and partly to their want of interest in the matter. I have little hope of inducing the natives under my charge to contribute towards the establishment

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of schools. As, however, there can be little doubt that the education of native children is the only way of permanently improving what remains of the Maori race, and affords the only chance of enabling it to stand its ground in company with the white man, I would submit the desirability of gratuitous aid for teaching them (as provided for by "The Native Schools Act Amendment Act, 1871"), and beg to suggest, that in my opinion the best thing that could be done for a year or two in a district like this is for the Government to provide a schoolmaster, who should visit the native villages and direct the efforts of such adult natives as may be willing to assist in furthering the work of educating their children (many of whom would be found), and also to devote as much of his time as possible at the different places in teaching the children himself.

With regard to their attention to agricultural pursuits, many of the tribes in the district manifest a desire to be possessed of the necessary implements for adopting the European system; and there are some who by industry have, within the last few years, acquired cattle, carts, ploughs, &c., and have cultivated and produced crops equal to those grown by Europeans, whilst others who have not the means to acquire European implements are obliged to follow their old methods; and as many of them have been deprived of all available bush since the confiscation, they labour under great disadvantages. In the bush land, which is well adapted for the native methods of cultivation, they can raise good crops, but in the open fern land they generally fail, owing to the want of proper appliances, consequently have but little surplus more than they require for food for themselves through the year, and for extra demands upon them by large parties travelling between Parihaka and the north, and the system of frequent large meetings, by which the natives of this district have for the last two or three years been kept very poor.

As regards the progress of the public works undertaken by natives in this district, nothing can be more satisfactory than the way they have performed the work they have undertaken. Since the work was first started the numbers employed have increased, and will continue to do so should new contracts be available in the spring of the year, after their crops are in. There is a report in circulation that there is to be a very large meeting at Parihaka in September next, the largest ever held there. This information, however, I have not obtained from any one from Parihaka, but from other natives, who also report that there is a probability of Tawhiao and a large party of the northern natives being present. Tamati Teito has recently returned from Te Kuiti, Tawhiao's place, and is said to have brought the intelligence. I was asked a few days ago if Tawhiao would be interfered with if he came through the town of New Plymouth, to which I replied by asking why such a question was put to me. I assured them that he would not be molested if he came here, but, on the contrary, would be received kindly and treated in a friendly manner. Since then, however, I have received intelligence confirming the report of Te Kooti's arrival at Te Kuiti, and to-day four natives who came in from Mokau informed me that he is now with Tawhana (Tikaokao) at Ripia, south of the Mokau River, about thirty miles

inland from the Mokau Heads. His following on arriving at Te Kuiti was seven males and two females. It is to be hoped that Tawhiao will not presume to allow Te Kooti to accompany him through an European district, as such a proceeding would complicate matters very much. I cannot for a moment suppose that they would do so, and am inclined to think that if they should come to Parihaka they will come through the interior and round Mount Egmont. This seems to be Te Whiti's ambition, that men of notoriety should come before him to be admonished and pardoned for their misdoings; and, should Te Kooti's career terminate in this way, Te Whiti's influence will increase, and his credulous followers become more devoted to him than ever. Such accumulation of power and influence in one man, strengthened by the presence of natives from other parts who have taken refuge under his fanatical ruling, is calculated to obstruct the progress of colonization and advancement of public works in this district; and will, I am convinced, be found to do so so long as the settlement of the Ngatiruanui tribes in their respective localities is forbidden, as the presence of so many of them in the Taranaki district retards the whole work, and acts as a set-off against their expulsion from their own district.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) R. PARRIS, Civil Commissioner.

No. 11.

The RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Upper Whanganui, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR, Native Office, Whanganui, July 16, 1872.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular letter of the 3rd of June, 1872, requesting me "to furnish a general report on the natives in the district in which I am stationed, &c."

It gives me much pleasure to comply with your request, particularly as I had already contemplated forwarding a report of the nature indicated by you, and now hasten to furnish the information called for.

Firstly. As "to the state of native feeling generally," I am happy to say that great progress has been made lately in the Whanganui district towards securing the establishment of peace and goodwill amongst the natives themselves and towards the Europeans, three successive native meetings having been held on the Whanganui River within the last two years, which were attended by leading chiefs from many of the tribes of the island, including Rewi Maniapoto, Paetahi, and other Waikato celebrities, having for their object the unfication of the Whanganui tribes (to be extended to the others) and the establishment of a lasting friendship between the races. The tribes on this river may now be said to be united for peace, and a fitting opportunity presents itself for introducing amongst them those peaceful arts and occupations which would tend so much to their amelioration and prosperity as a people. The feeling of animosity

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and jealousy which formerly exhibited itself in so marked a manner on the part of many of the natives of my district towards the Europeans in general has quite died out, and there are evident signs of a desire on their part to live in terms of friendship with the Pakeha, and to take advantage of their superior knowledge and skill, and conform to their habits and customs. The only natives residing in my district who seem to be unsettled are the members of the Ngarauru tribe, who continue to agitate the question of their return to their ancestral possessions at Waitotara (a very natural feeling on their part), although the bulk of the tribe seems to concur in the desirability, under existing circumstances, of leaving the matter in the hands of the Government; and I venture to express the hope that this difficulty will soon be adjusted, and that the time will come when we shall see all the coast tribes living in security and peace with the European settlers, in a district affording ample scope for the accommodation and support of a large number of people, including the members of both races.

Secondly. "As to the moral condition of the natives," I cannot speak favourably of it, the tone of morals existing amongst them being of that order known to be common amongst semi-civilized nations, and their religious sentiments are generally of a somewhat heterodox nature, combining the principles of Christianity with the rites and ceremonies of heathenism, as evinced in the Hauhau mode of worship; in fact, the natives have sadly retrograded in a religious point of view, having for the most part ceased to observe the Christian Sabbath, and allowed their churches to fall into ruin and decay. Notwithstanding all this, however, there are signs of a desire on their part to better themselves in this respect, and again conform to the system of religion as taught them by the missionaries, and many are setting their faces against working on the Sabbath, are discarding the Hauhau forms of worship, and express an intention of rebuilding their churches, and are anxious that they should again be regularly visited by a clergyman, there being no minister resident in their midst. Their reception of the Rev. Richard Taylor, who has visited them lately, was most encouraging to that venerable minister of the Gospel, and he purposes visiting them periodically for the future. I am also somewhat hopeful that an improvement will soon take place amongst the natives in their social habits and customs, and that an effort will be made on their part to abandon such of them as cannot but prove deleterious to the race; such as their communistic mode of living in their pas, their improvident habits of feasting one another, sharing their goods in common, &c. Some of the natives have expressed an intention of keeping separate establishments, and of parcelling out and cultivating their lands for their individual benefit. An advancement has been made in the character of their dwelling-houses, several wooden buildings having been erected at some of the pas, which, however, they as yet fail to keep sole possession of, as Europeans would.

Thirdly. "As to their physical condition," the same cannot be pronounced as healthy, as cutaneous and other diseases prevail amongst them, owing in a great measure to their want of cleanliness. The mortality of the Maoris is likewise great, for the most part owing

to their own neglect in needlessly exposing themselves to the inclemency of the weather, whereby the seeds of disease in some shape or form are germinted, ere long to exhibit themselves in premature waste and decay. Many also die in infancy, from a want of care on the part of their parents and sufficient nourishment. Numbers of the married women are also barren and unfruitful, which fact alone induces many of their husbands to lead rather irregular lives, and adopt the system of concubinage in vogue amongst their ancestors; the excuse for which they give, being the strong desire they have to obtain children and perpetuate the race. There can be no doubt that the natives are rapidly decreasing in numbers, there being only scores of them to be seen at many of the settlements where formerly hundreds resided, of which Pukehika pa, about sixty miles up the river, and Kaurawapaoa, sixteen miles up, are notable instances, some 2,000 natives having occupied the former pa thirty years ago, and about 1,500 the latter place, whereas there are not more than 300 natives now living at Pukehika, and about 100 at Kaurawapaoa. Many of the original settlements on the river are likewise entirely broken up and deserted, and I don't think there are now to be found more than 2,000 natives on the whole river, as compared with some 4,000 or 5,000 when I first arrived in Whanganui in 1853. The natives themselves are well aware of their decline, and are very despondent in consequence.

Fourthly. "With regard to their attention to agricultural pursuits," some advance has been made, owing to the fostering care of the Government. The plough is now in almost universal use, besides other farming implements; and large crops of potatoes and maize, besides wheat, are annually grown, the state of the market, however, considerably affecting the quantity raised. I ought here to mention that a ploughing match took place at Whanganui lately amongst the natives, the prizes for the most part having been given by yourself; and their work compared most favorably with that of the Europeans, who had a match of their own in the same field. The encouragement thus offered to the natives to engage in industrial pursuits by the giving of prizes, and the supply of oxen and agricultural implements, has been attended with success, and given much satisfaction. The tobacco plant is now largely cultivated by the Whanganui natives, resulting in a greatly diminished use by them of the imported article. A pamphlet on the right culture of tobacco has recently been circulated amongst the Maoris by the Government, whereby they will be made acquainted with the right process of curing the same, and rendering it a marketable production, and fit for the hands of the manufacturer; which may be regarded as a matter of some importance, particularly as a tobacco manufactory is about being started here by a Mr. Morton, late of the Southern States of America. Some 700 mulberry trees have also been distributed at the cost of the Government, with a view to the introduction of sericulture amongst the aborigines. A desire has also been expressed by the natives to engage in the cultivation of the hop plant, and a quantity of seed has been applied for. The natives would also willingly lease for an extended period a suitable block of land for the culture of the vine, the climate and soil of the up-river districts having been pronounced in every way adapted for the growth of that plant. The Maoris intend raising more wheat in

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future, and are repairing their mill-houses accordingly; of which there are several on the river in a neglected and dilapidated state. I would here take the opportunity of informing you that the Whanganui natives are beginning to see the paramount necessity of an effort being made on their part to secure the education of their children, and a reserve of 140 acres at Parikino has been given by Hakaria, the chief of that place, as an endowment for a native school; and assistance will be afforded by them towards erecting the necessary buildings, in both labour and material, Success cannot be looked for in this matter unless with the co-operation of the natives themselves, and I am sanguine that a movement is now abroad amongst them to secure their progress and advancement as a people, and to try and keep pace with their more enlightened neighbours, the European population of this country; to obtain which object, it is absolutely necessary that the native youth should be taught the English language, and thus the means afforded them of obtaining like knowledge with ourselves.

Fifthly. "As to the progress of public works undertaken by the natives," I am not aware of any in progress in my particular district, the Upper Whanganui, exclusive of the coast; although, I believe, some are contemplated, viz. the construction of a road from hence to Murimotu and Taupo, with a branch line to Ranana, on the Whanganui River; whereby immense tracts of fertile country would be opened up, and a connection secured with the interior—works which the natives here are anxious to see undertaken, and would assist in carrying out. I would here mention that I was the first to point out, acting under your instructions, the feasibility of making a road in the direction indicated.

Lastly. I am not aware of any other matter of moment worth mentioning; although I should like to state here that I have met with every encouragement in my work amongst the natives of this district, and I am not cognizant of any existing difficulty amongst them that cannot be arranged by negotiation or a reference to a court of law; there being a far greater readiness now than formerly on the part of the natives to defer their differences, including land disputes, to the arbitrament of a duly constituted court; and I am sanguine that the "native difficulty," at least in these parts, will ere long be reckoned a thing of the past.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) R. W. WOON, R.M.,
Upper Whanganui.

No. 12.

The RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Otaki, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

Resident Magistrate's Court,
Marton, 5th July, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honour, in accordance with the circular of 3rd June, to forward the following Report as to the state of native feeling in this district:—

The Maoris on this coast are, on the whole, peaceably inclined,

and becoming more ready to submit themselves to English laws than formerly. Many of their minor disputes they settle amongst themselves, which accounts for the small amount of Maori business transacted in the Resident Magistrate's Court; but all disputes with Europeans are submitted to the English courts, and during the past year there has been every respect paid by the Maoris to the decisions of the court. They have also a desire to become acquainted with English law, and to possess in their own language copies of Acts affecting the general administration of justice, such as the "Resident Magistrates' Acts, 1867–8," "Justice of the Peace Act, 1866," "Larcency Act, 1867," "Malicious Injury to Property Act, 1867," and the Bankruptcy Acts.

There is amongst the greater part of the Maoris of every tribe a growing desire to effect sales of land, from their gradually becoming aware that the land is of no value to them, except to sell.

Hauhauism and Kingism are fast dying out, and it is reported that Henare Te Herekau, a chief of Ngatiraukawa, intends, on the opening of a large Runanga house on the Upper Manawatu, to formally call on all professors of Hauhauism to give up the superstition, which he is sanguine will be done. In some parts of the districts a desire is expressed for the means of educating their children, but in Otaki, where those means exist, and every encouragement is offered, there is but a scanty and irregular attendance at the school.

I cannot report favourably of the physical condition of the Maoris; there has been a great deal of sickness among them, especially at Otaki and its neighbourhood, and the population is rapidly diminishing. There has been during the last two years fifteen per cent of deaths, while there has been only seven per cent. of births, in a population of about 700.

The Ngatiapa, at Parewanui, have devoted themselves to a considerable extent to agricultural pursuits, growing extensive crops; are the owners of several teams of plough horses, and have lately purchased a threshing machine for 75*l*. At Reureu and Pourewa, the Maoris are sheep farming, but little is being done in other places. At Otaki, the crops grown hardly suffice for themselves, leaving them very short of provisions previous to harvest. Some flax is dressed for sale, but only in small quantities. Their principal income is derived from rent of land, which is generally anticipated, being expended chiefly in spirits, &c., to treat the visitors at their numerous meetings. During the summer a great number of Maoris from Foxton and Oroua and those neighbourhoods, and a few from Otaki, obtained employment on the Government road and tramway, and did their work in a satisfactory manner, but none are now working, in consequence of the wet and cold weather.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) WM. J. WILLIS, R.M.

No. 13.

ALEXANDER MACKAY, Commissioner Native Reserves, Nelson, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR, Native Reserve Office, Nelson, July 18, 1872.

In compliance with the instructions contained in your circular letter of the 3rd ultimo, requesting me to furnish a general report on the natives in my district, and other information which may be interesting to the Colony, I have now the honour to enclose herewith the required information regarding the natives in the provinces of Nelson and Marlborough and the county of Westland, the Rev. Mr. Stack, and Mr. Watt, R.M., having already reported to you on the condition of the natives in the Southern Provinces.

I regret that so great a delay has taken place in forwarding this report, but your circular unfortunately came to hand just as I was leaving for the west coast, and since my return pressure of work has precluded my attending to the subject until now.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ALEXANDER MACKAY, Commissioner.

REPORT on the condition of the Natives in the Provinces of Nelson and Marlborough and the County of Westland, for the period ended the 30th June, 1872.

The State of Native Feeling.

The disposition of the natives of these districts towards the Europeans is uniformly good, and their attachment to the Government has remained unaltered during the whole of the disturbances in the North Island. They are perfectly aware, from their numerical disproportion, that they have nothing to gain and everything to lose by disturbing the friendly relations which a long intercourse has engendered between them and their European neighbours. Although a few restless spirits secretly favoured the King policy when it was first enunciated, very little feeling has been displayed in this part of the Colony in regard to the movement, and although emissaries were dispatched from the King party to make converts amongst them, but little effect was produced by their advocacy of the cause.

The Hauhau fanaticism which prevailed amongst the natives of the North Island never found favour amongst them, and, although perhaps less observant of religious worship than formerly, nothing noteworthy has occurred in connection with their religious condition during the various commotions that have happened in other parts of the Colony, and the general restoration of peace in the north, as well as the establishment of schools and other institutions for the promotion of civilization amongst the natives there, are viewed with considerable favour by them.

Moral Condition.

The moral condition of the people may be considered exceedingly good; convictions for criminal offences are very rare; in most instances the natives are well housed and clothed, and enjoy a good condition of health. There is a marked absence of the vice of intemperance as compared with former years; this is chiefly to be attributed to a movement that originated amongst themselves a year or so ago, introduced by a few of the better disposed to check the evil effects of drunkenness that then prevailed amongst them. Very few misunderstandings occur, and their general disposition and conduct towards their European neighbours is of a most friendly nature, always appealing to lawful authority when suffering wrong, as well as evincing a ready submission to the laws of the country.

There is a strong desire amongst them generally, more especially with the natives of Whakapuaka, that schools should be established in their midst for the instruction of their children in the English language. Their educational advantages up to the present time have been very scanty, for with the exception of the industrial school at Motueka, an institution that has never been popular amongst the natives, there is no properly organized school for the education of their youth, and anything known by the elders in the way of reading and writing is mainly owing to the training received from the early missionaries, or through the instrumentality of native teachers.

There are several causes which interfere with the popularity of the native school at Motueka, the chief one being that the natives who originally occupied a portion of the land included in the endowment to the Bishop of New Zealand assert that they have never been paid for it, and assign as a reason for not sending their children that if they receive any benefit in this way it would be a kind of acknowledgment that they have sold it.

The most feasible plan for promoting education amongst them, in the first place, and one that would carry with it the approbation and co-operation of the natives, as it would obviate the chief objections and difficulties in the mind of the parents, concerning the sending their children while very young to a distance to be educated, would be to establish small village schools where their children could be taught the first rudiments of education, instead of endeavouring to establish a central school at any particular place. This plan, however, is not entirely free from difficulties; the chief obstacle to it ssuccess would be the difficulty of obtaining proper teachers, as the unpleasantness of many of the duties to be discharged in connection with the education and management of native children deters many otherwise well qualified persons from engaging in the work.

Social Condition.

Viewed as a whole, their social condition is very satisfactory; their clothing as a rule is not inferior to that worn by the labouring classes, and their domestic habits are gradualiy assimilating to the Europeans. Their houses are fast assuming a respectable appearance, most of them are built of wood, and almost all have doors, windows, and chimneys.

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At Wakapuaka and Takaka, several very neat boarded houses have been erected during the last two years. Every encouragement is held out to all who feel disposed to erect a better class of dwellings, in place of the hovels in which they have been accustomed to reside, by providing them with bricks for chimneys, windows and doors, and the necessary ironmongery, at the expense of the Native Reserve Fund. They are also assisted in their industrial pursuits from the same source, in the purchase of carts, ploughs, harrows, harness, and agricultural implements, conditionally that the recipients pay half the cost. Medical attendance is also provided for them out of the fund, as well as clothing for the aged and decrepit.

Physical Condition.

The numerical status of the people is about stationary, the births keeping pace with the deaths. The total population in the districts under review amounts to 920, in the proportion of 523 males to 397 females; the children form little more than one-fourth of the whole. But a very small proportion of the native women rear children. The want of fecundity in the females has been attributed to the illicit intercourse which takes place between the sexes from a very early age. This habit, however, prevailed to a greater extent amongst the natives in former years, during the periods when the race was increasing, than it does now, so that the sterility of the women must be traced to other causes. In former years they frequently gave birth to ten and twelve children, but such cases are very rare now. The deficiency of vigour in the reproductive powers of the race has been attributed by some to the circumstance of their subsisting mainly on a vegetable diet: but other nations of the world exist in perfect health, and multiply, on a diet of which animal food forms but a small part. There would seem, therefore, no reason why the Maori population, dwelling in a state of quietude, should not increase in the same geometrical progression, under similar circumstances, without there are other causes for their decrease. It has, however, often occurred to the writer, that the true cause of their gradual decay lies in the breeding in-and-in, so to speak, that such a comparatively small aud insular population must of necessity have had to do, from their long isolation from that intermixture of different blood which is so essential to the maintenance of the vigour of a race. That, in fact, they are becoming from natural causes *effete* and worn out.

Subjoined, is a return of the cases treated by the medical officers in the provinces of Nelson amd Marlborough, during the three years ended 31st December, 1871, by which it will be seen that diseases of the chest predominate.

Medical Return.

Infantile diseases and dentition	24
Diseases of the urino-genitory organs	30
Diseases of the chest	336
Febrile diseases	23
Diseases of the abdomen	80
Rheumatism	96

Diseases of the eye	66
Accidents	40
Skin diseases	30
Scrofula	22
Various	73
Total cases treated	820

Of the above, 816 were relieved or cured, and four died. Besides the latter, several deaths occurred in the Pelorus from low fever, during the summer of 1871.

A circular has been issued to the natives informing them of the existence of small-pox in the Colony, and drawing their attention to the importance of being vaccinated.

Attention or otherwise to Agricultural Pursuits.

The industrial stimulus the natives received in the early days of the Colony, through the steady influx of settlers, and increased demand consequent thereon for pigs, grain, potatoes, and other native produce, which led them to vie with the Europeans in the cultivation of the land, has diminished year by year, until little attention is now paid by them to agricultural operations, further than to raise a bare sufficiency for their own wants. The same cause that has tended to retard this pursuit amongst the Europeans of late years, the decline in the value of produce, has also operated amongst the natives. The discovery of gold has also had the effect of causing many to completely abandon the cultivation of their land, to follow the pursuit of gold-digging, at which some have been very successful; but as a rule their earnings have been mostly squandered in a useless manner, and the result, with a few exceptions, has been the increase of indolent and improvident habits amongst them. They own comparatively very few horses and cattle, and the breeding of pigs, which used to occupy their attention in former years, has fallen into disuse, excepting in a few localities, chiefly in consequence of their having no room to run them, owing to the gradual settlement of the country by the European population, The same reason will also prevent them from owning any number of sheep.

Since the sale of the bulk of their lands to the Crown, the natives have been mostly confined to their reserves, which, although large in the aggregate for the number of persons to whom they belong, are small in comparison to the extent of land owned by them in former years, over which they could hunt or fish without hindrance or the fear of transgressing some unknown law; now they can hardly keep an animal about them, without its becoming a scource of anxiety, lest it involve them in some trouble with their European neighbours. The increase of civilization around them, besides curtailing their liberties, has also compelled the adoption of a different, and to them a more expensive, mode of life, which, owing to their improvident habits, they find very difficult to maintain.

All this is very perplexing and bewildering to the Maori, whose early habits and mode of life were so different to ours, and it is not surprising that, perceiving his incapacity to keep pace with his Euro-

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pean neighbours, a want of earnestness should predominate all he undertakes. The quantity of land set apart for the natives is ample, if they would only put it to good use; but in many instances they prefer letting, in place of cultivating it. This practice is not objectionable when they have plenty of land to spare for the purpose, and the rent receivable is commensurate with its value. At Motueka, the natives, who occupy a portion of the Trust Estate, derive an income from letting their surplus land, of 240*l.* per annum—this amount is independent of rent accruing from land in the occupation of tenants under the Trust. The natives of Queen Charlotte's Sound and the Wairau also receive an income of 100*l.* per annum from rents.

The total area of native reserves in the Province of Nelson is 58,565 acres 3 roods and 35 perches; and in the Province of Marlborough, 21,414 acres 2 roods 8 perches. The reserves in Westland comprise an area of 5,937 acres 1 rood 16 perches. As a brief sketch of the origination and management of the native reserves in the South Island may not be uninteresting, I subjoin a memorandum on the subject, together with a return showing the total acreage set apart for native purposes.

ALEXANDER MACKAY, Native Commissioner.

MEMORANDUM on the ORIGINATION and MANAGEMENT of NATIVE RESERVES in the SOUTHERN ISLAND.

The system of making native reserves originated with the New Zealand Company, and in the instructions to its principal agent, Colonel Wakefield, who was intrusted with the purchase of land for the Company, one of the principles laid down was, that in every purchase a portion of the territory ceded, equal to one-tenth of the whole, should be reserved, and held in trust by the Company for the future benefit of the chief families of the ceding tribe. It was considered advisable to adopt this course in preference to making reserves for the native owners in large blocks, as had been the common practice in regard to Indian reserves in North America, as that plan tended to impede settlement, and to encourage the aborigines to continue in a state of barbarism. The Company, therefore, directed that the reserves for the natives should be set apart in the same way, in the same allotments, and in the same effectual manner as if the reserved lands had been purchased from the Company on behalf of the natives. Accordingly, in pursuance with this intention, when the preliminary sales of land in the first settlements were held, the Company reserved one-tenth of the land orders for the chief families of the tribe by whom the land was originally sold, in the same way precisely as if the lots had been purchased on their behalf; and the priority of choice for the native allotments was determined by lot, as in the case of actual purchasers, the selection being made by an officer expressly charged with that duty.

These reserves of land were looked on as far more important to the natives than anything that could be paid to them in the shape of purchase money, as, however high they were paid, the consideration given would only afford but a brief enjoyment, and when it had passed

away, the recipients be but little better for the gift, while these lands would remain with them as a lasting possession.

By way of recompense for the moment, as well as in deference to public opinion, the Company, however, paid the natives what was deemed, according to received notions, to be a sufficient price; but they considered the real worth of the land purchased from them to be the reserves set apart for their maintenance, and for schools, hospitals, and other useful establishments.

It was to guard the natives against that common failing of all aboriginal races—want of foresight—and to secure them from the dangers to which colonization exposed them, if denuded of all landed property, that the Company invented the plan of native reserves, as these were possessions that could not be squandered away at the moment, but as time glided on, their value would progressively increase, and in place of a barren possession which they parted with, the natives would receive in return a property of considerable worth, that, if properly administered for their benefit, would ultimately prove of incalculable value.

In August, 1839, shortly after his arrival in the Colony, Colonel Wakefield concluded three purchases from the natives; and, in pursuance with the instructions received from the Company to the effect that, in every *pukapuka*, or contract, entered into with the natives for the purchase of land, care should be taken to mention that a proportion of the territory ceded, equal to one-tenth, should be reserved and held in trust by the Company for the future benefit of the natives, he made it a condition of each of the deeds of purchase that a portion of the land ceded should be set apart as aforesaid.

In the first deed the quantity is definitely stated, but the second and third deeds merely contain a promise that land shall be set apart for the natives, but the quantity is not specified. The proportion, however, to be set apart in fulfilment of the Company's scheme, in so far as the Nelson settlement was concerned, was ultimately fixed by the prospectus issued by the Company in London (dated 15th February, 1841), in terms of which the Company engaged, subject to arrangement with Her Majesty's Government, to add to the 201,000 acres offered for sale, a quantity equal to one-tenth thereof as native reserves, so that the whole land to be appropriated within the settlement was 221,100 acres, out of which 20,100 formed the proportion to be set apart as native reserves, to consist of 100 town sections of one acre, 100 suburban sections of 50, and 100 rural sections of 150 acres each.

The system thus commenced was adopted only in the three first settlements founded by the Company, namely, Port Nicholson, Nelson, and New Plymouth, although reserves were also made for the natives in the settlements of Otago and Canterbury, founded also under their auspices; these, however, were merely occupation reserves, being land excluded from purchase, and could scarcely be considered native reserves under the New Zealand Company's scheme.

It would seem by the 13th clause of the agreement of 1840, that the Government had the power to make reservations of lands within the Company's settlements for the benefit of the natives, in pursuance of the Company's engagements to that effect; and Lord Stanley, in a

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Despatch to Governor Fitzroy, dated the 18th of April, 1844, referring to native reserves, says:—

"There can be no question that they should be taken out of the Company's lands; the Company had, in former instructions to their agent, provided for reserving one-tenth of all lands which they might acquire fron the natives for their benefit. By the 13th clause of their agreement, of November, 1840, the Government was, in respect of all to be granted to them, to make reservations of such lands for the benefit of the natives, in pursuance of the Company's engagements to that effect. It seems quite plain, therefore, that the Government is to reserve for that purpose one-tenth of the Company's land."

In October, 1840, Mr. Edmund Halswell, a member of the English bar, was appointed by the New Zealand Company to the office of Commissioner for the management of the lands reserved for the natives in their settlements, and general directions were given to him for the administration of the property.

After the Company resigned the native reserves into the hands of Her Majesty's Government, Mr. Halswell was superseded in the management of the trust estate, and the trusteeship of the native reserves in New Zealand was vested by Governor Hobson in the Bishop of New Zealand, the Chief Justice, and the Chief Protector of Aborigines.

Besides the management of the native reserves, it was intended that the Bishop and his colleagues should have control over all moneys accruing from the proportion of the produce of land sales within the Colony, to be devoted to native purposes, which might prove from time to time to be disposable out of the funds so to be set apart for this purpose, after paying the expense of the Protector's Department; the funds accruing from both sources to be expended in the establishment of schools for the education of youth among the aborigines, and in furtherance of such measures as might be most conducive to the spiritual care of the native race, and to their advancement in the scale of social and political existence.

The principle of setting apart 15 per cent. on the produce of land sales annually does not appear to have been adhered to after the second year of the settlement of the Colony (1842), at the end of which period there was a sum of 4,110*l.* 16*s.* 2½*d.* due to the said fund, which amount was then chargeable with the expense of the Protector's Department for the year; but it would seem that a large proportion of this money must have been subsequently swallowed up in the pressing requirements of the Colony, instead of being devoted to the purpose for which it was intended; and, although the surplus (4,000*l.*) was entered upon the schedule of the debts of the Colony, the Commissioner of the Treasury refused to recognize it as a claim against the Imperial Government, and the original instructions regarding the setting apart of the aforesaid percentage were ultimately lost sight of during the administration of the affairs of the Colony under Governor Fitzroy.

The proposal made by the New Zealand Company, in 1841, to advance 5,000*l.* for native purposes, on mortgage of the native reserves in the Company's settlements, was objected to, it being considered unadvisable to sanction any mode of raising money upon

the security of the native reserves which might, by any contingency, cause the alienation of these lands from the beneficial use of the aborigines.

In 1841, the Chief Justice resigned the office of trustee, as he found the duties incompatible with his official position, for in the event of the trustees being engaged in any lawsuit, he would be both judge and party in the suit at the same time; and Mr. Halswell was subsequently appointed to the sole charge of the reserves at Wellington, as agent of the trust vested in the Bishop and his co-Trustee; and Mr. Thompson, the police magistrate, was appointed to fill a similar office in Nelson.

In 1842, Mr. Thompson, in his capacity as agent of native reserves, selected 100 sections of one acre each in the town of Nelson, and 100 suburban sections of 50 acres each in the Moutere and Motueka districts, and acted as local manager of the property until June, 1843, when he perished in the Wairau massacre.

After the death of Mr. Thompon, the Bishop appointed Mr. M'Donald his agent.

In February, 1844, the Bishop resigned the office of trustee, and in the same year "The Native Trust Ordinance" was passed by the Legislative Council for appointing a Board of Trustees for the management of property to be set apart for the education and advancement of the native race. The trustees named by the Act were his Excellency the Governor, the Lord Bishop of New Zealand, William Spain, Esq., so long as he held the office of Commissioner of Land Claims, and the Chief Protector of Aborigines. This act was not brought into operation, although it received the royal confirmation, in consequence of the terms of the last clause not being fully complied with, namely, that the confirmation of the Ordinance should be notified in the *Gazette* before it came into operation.

The establishment of trustees for native reserves, as originally comtemplated, not being carried out, the Government appointed Boards of Management, and in June, 1848, Messrs. Poynter, Carkeek, and Tinline were appointed a Board of Management of the native reserves for the district of Nelson. The Board retained the management of the property till the middle of the year 1853, when the sole management devolved upon Major Richmond, who was then Crown Lands Commisssoner, and who was ultimately succeeded, in the year 1857, by Messrs. Domett, Poynter and Brunner, by appointment dated 1st December, 1856, as Commissioners under "The Native Reserves Act of 1856."

In September, 1862, an Act was passed by the General Assembly, known as "The Native Reserves Amendment Act, 1862."

This Act provides that, on and after a certain date to be fixed by the Governor by proclamation, all the powers and authorities which by "The Native Reserves Act, 1856," were vested in Commissioners, shall vest in and may be exercised by the Governor. It also provides that the Governor may delegate the whole or any of the powers competent to Commissioners, to any person or persons, for any period, subject to such regulations, restrictions, or stipulations as may be specified in the Order of Delegation.

In conformity, therefore, with the provisions of the aforesaid Act,

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a proclamation was issued on the 4th August, 1863, fixing the 1st September, 1863, as the date for the Act to come into operation.

The first delegation of management of the native reserves in the northern portion of the Middle Island, under the Act of 1862, was made to Mr. James Mackay, jnn., on the 9th November, 1863, and on his removal to Auckland, in 1864, the appointment was conferred on Mr. Alexander Mackay, the present Native Commissioner for the South Island.

The following is a list of the town sections originally selected as native reserves by Mr. Thompson in 1842, viz.:—Nos. 5, 20, 21, 46, 47, 50, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 93, 144, 148, 152, 159, 162, 177, 191, 194, 198, 203, 205, 227, 229, 231, 233, 241, 244, 248, 253, 256, 261, 263, 265, 266, 267, 269, 283, 284, 294, 303, 305, 307, 344, 367, 382, 387, 406, 416, 417, 443, 521, 522, 529, 537, 551, 561, 575, 582, 583, 598, 608, 625, 626, 650, 706, 710, 718, 722, 768, 777, 778, 784, 797, 798, 828, 831, 855, 858, 860, 897, 905, 911, 926, 939, 941, 943, 945, 951, 953, 954, 956, 1051, 1084, 1088, 1091, 1092, 1096, 1099.

Owing to the impossibility of carrying out the original scheme of the Nelson settlement, and the consequent necessity for some equitable compromise, the inhabitants applied to the New Zealand Company to modify the arrangements, so as to allow the landowners the option of acquiring fresh land, and promoting concentration by means of re-selection under certain conditions. In furtherance of this object, but not in the precise mode suggested by them, the Company proposed a new set of regulations in October, 1845. These, however, were received with great dissatisfaction, and were consequently withdrawn. The settlers continued to press for a remodelling of the original scheme, and the directors therefore made another attempt to carry out such an alteration.

Negotiations ensued between a committee of the resident land purchasers on the one hand, and the Company's agents on the other; and certain resolutions were come to by the Nelson Committee, at a meeting of land purchasers and agents, held in Nelson, on the 30th of June, 1847, which were subsequently concurred in by the Company, subject to certain modifications.

The following extract from the aforesaid resolutions has reference to native reserves:—

"One subject arising out of our proposed plan, bnt not coming strictly, perhaps, within the scope of our own duties, we yet consider it our duty to make a few remarks upon. We allude to the native reserves.

"With respect to the rural sections, it is understood that the Governor, in making the large reserves he has for the natives at the Wairau, has released the Company from laying out and choosing the 100 rural sections according to the original scheme, but in the case of the town and suburban sections, the effect of our proposal would be to allot a much larger proportion than one-tenth of the land actually sold to the natives. How far, now that the Crown has taken these reserves into its hands, any alteration in them would be sanctioned, is a question; but we would suggest a memorial being addressed to the Governor, with a view to limit the number of town and suburban

reserves to one-tenth of the land actually sold, so as to throw open the remainder for present choice."

In complaince with a proposition to that effect subsequently made by the resident agent of the Company on behalf of the land purchasers, the Governor consented to a reduction of the number of the native reserves proportionate to that proposed in respect of the whole settlement. This led to the surrender of 47 of the town reserves, but the reduction was not extended to the suburban sections; the following is a list of those relinquished;—Nos. 20, 21, 46, 47, 191, 194, 253, 256, 303, 382, 387, 529, 551, 561, 575, 608, 625, 626, 650, 706, 718, 722, 768, 777, 778, 784, 797, 798, 828, 831, 855, 858, 860, 897, 926, 939, 941, 943, 945, 951, 953, 954, 956, 1051, 1084, 1088, 1091.

With reference to the large reserves in the Wairau alluded to in the foregoing extracts, as having released the Company from selecting the 100 rural sections according to the original scheme unfortunately for the interest of the trust estate, these reserves, which consisted of two large blocks containing an approximate area in the aggregate of 117,248 acres set apart on the first sale of the district by the natives in March, 1847, were subsequently included in the second sale to the Government in 1853, without any precaution being taken to set apart a sufficiency of land in satisfaction of the quantity the trust was entitled to under the original scheme as rural land.

The following is a list of the original suburban sections selected as native reserves in the Moutere and Motueka districts, under the New Zealand Company's scheme:—

Moutere.—Nos. 45, 69, 71, 73, 75, 84, 85, 137, 138, 144, 145, 147, 148, 151, 201, 202, 205, 206, 213.

Motueka.—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, 36, 47, 48, 73, 74, 79, 80, 82, 92, 93, 111, 113, 117, 118, 122, 123, 124, 126, 127, 129, 132, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 157, 159, 160, 161, 168, 169, 183, 186, 187, 192, 199, 206, 207, 208, 221, 222, 223, 234, 236, 240, 241, 242, 253, 256, 260, 262, 263, 264.

In 1844, at the time of Mr. Commissioner Spain's inquiry into the New Zealand Company's claims to land in the Nelson settlement, Mr. G. Clarke, the Sub-Protector of Aborigines, recommended the exchange of a number of the sections selected as native reserves in Motueka in lieu of an equal number of suburban sections in the same district, which were found to be in the occupation of the natives. This recommendation was subsequently acted on, and eight native reserve sections, viz., Nos. 7, 8, 10, 11, 16, 28, 252, and 256, were exchanged for suburban sections, Nos. 162, 163, 164, 182, 188, 212, 219, and 220.

The whole of these sections had been previously awarded to the natives by Mr. Commissioner Spain, together with eight other sections, sixteen in all, in fulfilment of the arrangement made between Captain Wakefield and the natives, shortly after the arrival of the preliminary expedition at Nelson, to the effect that they should retain a considerable portion of the Big Wood, at Motueka, then in cultivation by them.

The following sections were awarded to the natives of Motueka by

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Mr. Spain:—Nos. 157, 159, 160, 161, *162, *163, *164, *182, *183, *187, *188, *212, *219, *220, 241, and 242.

Besides the exchange alluded to above, the Board of Management found it necessary to make further alterations, in consequence of the natives having located themselves on many of the purchased sections in the district. To obviate any difficulties that might eventually ensue from these encroachments, the Board surrendered native reserve sections, Nos. 20, 29, 35, 36, 73, and 74, for the sections encroached on, viz. Nos. 181, 184, 210, 211, 218, and 243. Upon five of these sections considerable cultivations had been made, and it would have been next to an impossibility for the European owners to have wrested possession of the land so encroached upon by the natives, from the numerous occupants.

Irrespective, however, of the advantage gained for the natives in carrying out this arrangement, it was also of great benefit to the trust estate, inasmuch as the land taken in exchange by the Board was of superior quality to the land given up, and being contiguous to the great bulk of the native estate in the wood at Motueka, it was, moreover, of much greater value than detached sections at a distance from what was then the inhabited portion of the district.

In addition to the Company's tenths, certain other lands were excepted for the natives in the awards to the Company, in conformity with certain resolutions agreed to at a conference held in Wellington in January, 1844, between the local Government and the Company's principal agent to the effect, "that the pahs, burial places, and "grounds actually in cultivation by the natives, situated within any of "the lands appropriated to the New Zealand Company should be "retained for the use of the natives, the terms 'pahs' and 'cultivations' "to be understood to mean as follows:—'That the 'pah' should be "considered to be the ground that is fenced around the natives' houses, "including the ground in cultivation or occupation around the adjoin-"ing houses without the fence; and that the nature and meaning of the "word 'cultivations' were to be understood to apply to those tracts of "country which were in use by the natives for vegetable productions, "or which have been so used by the aboriginal natives of New Zealand "since the establishment of the Colony."

The lands of this description in the settlement were chiefly situated in Massacre Bay, and consisted principally of cultivated grounds scattered in small patches of a few acres in all manner of fantastic shapes throughout sections owned by the European proprietors.

In 1847, Governor Grey, in order to remedy the inconvenience caused by the vague description given of these lands, directed them to be surveyed as described in the award to the Company, and in accordance with the original understanding.

In 1853, Sir George Grey granted a number of the native reserve sections at Motueka—in all 918 acres—to the Bishop of New Zealand, as an endowment for an industrial school for the education of children of both races, and of children of other poor and destitute persons, being inhabitants of islands in the Pacific Ocean.

Note.—The sections marked with an asterisk are those for which an equal number of native sections had to be given in exchange.

This grant was looked upon as a violation of the contract on which the settlement was founded, and in contravention of the original intention for which the lands were set apart by the New Zealand Company.

A special Committee of the Nelson Provincial Council expressed their disapprobation of the grant, and a memorial was forwarded by them to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, praying that the necessary steps might be taken to set the grant aside, but, although permission was subsequently given to test its validity by a writ of *scire facias*, the matter was allowed to drop as other interests were involved, which it was considered inexpedient to disturb.

The origin of the numerous grants that have been made in various parts of the Colony, appears to have sprung from a correspondence in the years 1849 and 1851, between the then Governor, Sir George Grey, and Earl Grey, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in which the Governor points out the advantages that would ensue to the promotion of industrial schools for the natives, if grants of waste lands of the Crown were made, to provide for the subsistence of the children educated thereat, and suggests that the advantages proposed should be extended to children of natives of islands in the Pacific Ocean.

Earl Grey, in reply, approved of the scheme as being salutary and politic, and expressed his satisfaction of the general sufficiency of the instrument by which it was proposed to convey the lands to be set apart for the maintenance of the schools.

Had the original intention been adhered to of setting apart Crown land as an endowment for these institutions, no objection could have been taken to the appropriation of land for so laudable a purpose, but, from some unexplained cause, these appropriations were made to include lands set apart solely for the natives under express agreement with the Imperial Government, under the terms of the prospectus of three of the settlements of the New Zealand Company, and as part of the consideration for the cession of native territory.

The purpose of the reserves was clear and exclusive, and forbade their use for general endowment, and had "The Native Trust Ordinance, of 1844," been in operation, these appropriations for general purposes could not have been made, as its provisions expressly forbade alienation except by lease, and declared all charges or incumbrances on the trust estate to be void.

The right of pre-emption being vested in Her Majesty by the Treaty of Waitangi, and certain Acts and Ordinances having been passed prohibiting private individuals from acquiring native lands, under penalty, a system of land purchasing was commenced by the Government in 1847, and continued till May 17th, 1865, at which date it was done away with by proclamation. "The Native Land Act, of 1862," permitting the natives to alienate their lands by private sale, or otherwise, having been confirmed by Her Majesty, the continuance of the Land Purchase Department, by which, prior to its enactment, the cession of native lands to the Crown had heretofore been conducted, was rendered unnecessary.

In the purchases effected at various times and in various places, portions of almost every block purchased were reserved by the natives, and in some cases by the Commissioner who negotiated the purchase under instructions from the Government.

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There are four classes of reserves in the Southern Island, viz.:—

1. Reserves set apart by the New Zealand Company in the Nelson settlement under the original scheme. This class comprises an acreage of 5,053 acres, a large proportion of which is in the occupation of tenants, and the revenue accruing is spent in various ways for improving the general condition of the natives. The total amount collected from the estate since the year 1842, the period at which these lands were selected, to the 31st December, 1869, amounted to 12,634*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*; and the expenditure on behalf of the natives during that period was 11,432*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*, leaving a balance of 1,202*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* to the credit of the fund.

2. Reserves of the second class are lands that have been brought under the operation of "The Native Reserves Act, 1856," with the assent of the natives. The reserves of this class are situated chiefly on the west coast of the Province of Nelson, and in the County of Westland. A portion only of these lands is productive. The total revenue collected from the portion of the estate in the occupation of tenants since the 1st July, 1865, the date at which the portion alluded to first became occupied, to the 31st December, 1869, amounted to 14,361*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*; while the expenditure for the same period was 10,366*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*, leaving a balance to the credit of the fund of 3,995*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*

3. Reserves of the third class are lands that have been excepted from sale by the natives on the cession of the surrounding territory to the Crown, and set apart for their use and occupation. Of the reserves of this class very few have been utilized in the way of producing a revenue, the land being chiefly required for the use of the natives.

The natives in the Provinces of Canterbury and Otago have obtained titles, under the provisions of "The Native Lands Act," to the whole of the reserves of this class situated in these Provinces, during the sitting of the Native Lands Court there in 1868.

4. Reserves of the fourth class comprise the awards made by the Native Lands Court in 1868, in final extinguishment of all claims under the terms of Kemp's or the Ngaitahu deed of 1848, in pursuance of which the Court set apart, in the Provinces of Otago and Canterbury, land to the extent of 4,789 acres.

Besides the reserves alluded to above, a few parcels of land have been devoted to this purpose by the Superintendents of Provinces, especially in Canterbury.

The total acreage set apart in the South Island for native purposes amounts to 119,544 acres, 2 roods, 18 perches. The quantity, when averaged over the native population in the Middle and Stewart's Island, gives 50¾ acres to each individual. But, besides the quantity stated, the natives in the Province of Nelson own territory at Wakapuaka, and D'Urville's Island, comprising about 51,170 acres; and at the Island of Ruapuke, in Foveaux Straits, an area of 4,093 acres.

ALEXANDER MACKAY, Commissioner.

RETURN showing the TOTAL ACREAGE set apart for NATIVE PURPOSES in the PROVINCES in the SOUTH ISLAND.

Locality.	Total Acreage.	Total Acreage in each Province.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
PROVINCE OF NELSON—		
New Zealand Company's tenths	5,053 1 30	
Educational reserves	3,490 0 0	
General reserves	50,022 2 5	
		58,565 3 35
PROVINCE OF MARLBOROUGH—		
General reserves	21,414 2 8	
		21,414 2 8
COUNTY OF WESTLAND—		
General reserves	5,937 1 16	
		5,937 1 16
PROVINCE OF CANTERBURY—		
Reserves made in 1848 in terms of Kemp's purchase	3,531 1 0	
Reserves made in 1849 in terms of the Port Cooper purchase	859 0 0	
Reserves made in 1849 in terms of the Port Levy purchase	1,361 0 0	
Reserves set apart by the Canterbury Government	44 1 0	
Reserves set apart by Mr. Hamilton on Bank's Peninsula, in 1856	1,298 0 0	
Reserves made by General Government to supplement reserves at Kaiapoi, Taumutu, and Waimatemate	286 1 0	
Reserves made in pursuance of awards of the Native Land Court in 1868, in final extinguishment of promises made under Kemp's deed of 1848	2,695 0 0	
		10,074 3 0
PROVINCE OF OTAGO—		
Reserves made in 1844 in terms of Captain Symond's purchase	9,615 1 12	
Reserves made in 1848 in terms of Kemp's purchase	3,672 0 16	
Reserves made in 1853 in terms of the Murihiku purchase	242 0 26	
Reserves made in pursuance of awards of the Native Land Court in 1868, in final extinguishment of promises made under Kemp's deed of 1848	2,098 2 24	
Granted by the Native Land Court in 1868, out of an area of 1 acre 3 roods, 24 perches set apart for the natives at Port Chalmers in 1852	0 3 1	
		15,628 3 39
PROVINCE OF SOUTHLAND—		
Reserves made in 1853 in terms of Murihiku purchase	4,588 0 0	
Reserved by the Provincial Government for Te Oni Topi Patuki	400 0 0	
		4,988 0 0
STEWART'S ISLAND—		
Reserves made in 1864 in terms of the Stewart's Island purchase	935 0 0	
Reserves for educational purposes made in terms of the Stewart's Island purchase	2,000 0 0	
		2,935 0 0

SUMMARY.

	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Province of Nelson	58,565	3	35			
„ Marlborough	21,414	2	8			
County of Westland	5,937	1	16			
Province of Canterbury	10,074	3	0			
„ Otago	15,628	3	39			
„ Southland	4,988	0	0			
Stewart's Island	2,935	0	0			
				119,544	2	18

No. 14.

Rev. JAMES W. STACK, Interpreter, Kaiapoi, to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR, Kaiapoi, 10th July, 1872.

I have the honour, in accordance with your Circular (3rd June, 1872), to enclose my Report on the Maoris of East Canterbury.

I have made no allusion to the school, as I hope to furnish a special Report upon it shortly. The building is completed, and I am only waiting instructions respecting the appointment of a master.

I have, &c.,

JAMES STACK.

REPORT on the MAORIS of EAST CANTERBURY, for year ending 30th JUNE, 1872.

The state of Maori feeling.

For several years past the natives in this district have manifested a spirit of discontent, that has had the effect of checking their civilization, towards which they had made considerable advance. The producing causes of this irritation, so far as they are peculiar to the state of transition through which the Maoris are now passing, are inevitable and irremediable; but there are others that might have been prevented, and can be remedied. Of course it was impossible for the Maoris to foresee all the consequences that were certain to follow the sale of their lands, for the purpose of colonization. They thought only of the advantages they were likely to secure—advantages that were more appreciable twenty-five years ago than they are now; for then the Maoris found a ready market for their labour and their produce; *now*, both are at a discount; *then*, such food and clothing as they needed were readily procured; *now* they are often in want of both; *then*, they felt perfectly free; *now*, their liberties are seriously curtailed. Besides, the constant pressure exercised by the close neighbourhood of overwhelming numbers of civilized persons compels them to abandon their old, simple, and inexpensive mode of life, and to adopt new and uncongenial customs that require more money than they, with their indolent and improvident habits, and limited range of employments, are able always to obtain; this produces an irritable state of mind, that finds

vent in the abuse of the Government, for they trace all their difficulties to having parted with the lands, from which the Government now derives so large a revenue. Could they by any means overturn the original bargain, and regain possession of the land yet unsold, their difficulties would all vanish. They spend much of their time dreaming and talking over such a possibility. The statements made by many who were parties to the original deed of purchase, raised their hopes of a favourable verdict, if their case were submitted to a competent tribunal. The adverse decision of the Native Land Court was therefore a great disappointment, and only increased the discontent which has continued ever since to exist. The facilities afforded for the generation of ill-feeling, and the perpetuation of grievances, by the congregation of Maoris on reserves, makes it very questionable whether it is for the best interests of the Maoris that they should be placed in communities on large reserves. From what I have seen during twelve years' residence here, I am inclined to think that it would be more conducive to their welfare and happiness to distribute them among the European population, and instead of having several contiguous sections occupied by natives, to have every individual Maori's section surrounded by land in the occupation of white men. They would then become absorbed in the general population, and cease to regard themselves as a separate and foreign people. What the force of example will do, may be seen in Canterbury, where the houses, the clothing, and the habits of the people, are nearer to those of the civilized man than perhaps could be found in any other part of the country; and if the effect of surrounding the native community, even at some distance, with an European population has exercised such an elevating influence, what might we not expect were every native homestead surrounded by the same civilizing influence? So long as the present system of locating Maoris on reserves prevails, so long will they cherish their old customs—so long will they be idle, dirty, and improvident, so long will they dream of self-government, and fret about their altered position, and spend their time in idle abuse and vain complaints.

Moral Condition.

The moral condition of the people is rather above the average. Convictions for criminal offences are very rare. Drunkenness is an uncommon offence, and always punished by the natives. A total abstinence movement originating entirely with themselves, and largely supported, proves that the people favour sobriety. There is very little illicit sexual intercourse either between whites or amongst themselves. It prevailed here to a great extent some years ago, but drink was generally the inciting cause.

Physical Condition.

The rate of mortality is less than it was, owing not to the increased vigour of the race, but to the absence of epidemics. The *children form little more than one-fourth of the population.* It is a curious fact that the form of scrofula, so common in the North, which atttacks the glands of the neck, is unknown here. Can it be owing to the

NEW ZEALAND.

large consumption of (titi) mutton birds, add to their never eating Indian corn? Asthma and rheumatism are common amongst adults. Low fever and pulmonary diseases cause most of the deaths.

Attention or otherwise to Agricultural Pursuits.

Agriculture is very much neglected. With all the necessary appliances, and, as a rule, the best soil in the Province, the Maoris do not cultivate enough for their own support. They prefer letting their lands, though the rental they receive is but a fraction of what they might obtain by working the soil themselves, and goes but a little way towards providing the necessaries of life. Wheat and potatoes are all they attempt to grow. Kumeras, pumpkins, melons, turnips, &c., all favourite articles of diet, they never cultivate now, assigning as a reason that they require too much care. Their food at every meal, as a rule, consists only of bread and tea. They have plenty of horses, but few horned cattle, and no sheep. Though very fond of milk and butter, there is not one household that provides itself with these things, everyone shirks the trouble. The neglect of agriculture is probably owing—

1. To the perpetual interruptions caused by having to attend Runangas, called together on the most frivolous pretexts.
2. To the unsettled state of mind, to which I have already referred.
3. To the facility afforded (by the close proximity in which they live) for the *idle to live on the industrious.*

Suggestions.

In conclusion, I wish to offer a few suggestions—

1. Whether it might not tend to allay the present discontent, if the Maoris were encouraged to register as voters, and so made to feel that they had a voice in the Government of the country.
2. That a form of will should be provided to facilitate the devising of property held under Crown grant. Much ill-feeling and litigation amongst relations would thus be prevented.
3. Whether the time has not arrived when the Maoris should be required to register births, deaths, and marriages, the fees being merely nominal, and the Registrars chosen from among themselves.

JAMES STACK.

[J. C. B.]

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WELD to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Government House, Perth, March 2, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the Blue Book of this Colony for 1871, accompanied by a Report by Mr. F. P. Barlee, the Colonial Secretary, to which I beg respectfully to request your Lordship's attention.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, (Signed) FRED. A. WELD,
&c. &c. &c. Governor.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,

SIR, February 28, 1872.

Bearing in mind the instructions received last year from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, I have endeavoured to hasten as much as has been compatible with accuracy the preparation of the Annual Blue Book, and I have the honour to forward it with a view to its transmission by the outgoing mail, so that it will arrive in England almost within three months subsequent to the end of the year to which it refers.

Events of the Year.

1. The year 1871 promised at its opening to be an eventful year in Western Australia, and though at its close the anticipations of its earlier days were by no means realized, there has been much to mark its importance. The first Representative Council was in session in January, and during that session the principles of self-government were applied to the larger towns in the Colony, and District Road Boards were instituted. A year's experience has resulted in showing that much interest has been evinced by the colonists in managing those matters in which they are peculiarly interested; and if in all cases the proceedings have not been quite such as might have been desired, there has been at all events no reason to doubt that the step which has been taken in establishing free institutions has, taking all things into consideration, been a well and salutary one.

At a later session in July, among other matters of importance then under discussion, the question of free trade versus protection in breadstuffs was prominently considered, and the Council may be said to have been equally divided on this vexed question. A change in the constitution affecting the status of both members and voters afforded your Excellency a favourable opportunity of appealing to the colonists, and in the course of a few weeks this question and others equally interesting to those resident in Western Australia will be openly discussed between members and constituents.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Education.

2. At the session in July an Elementary Education Act was passed, for the first time placing in the hands of the people any power connected with the instruction afforded to children through the aid of public funds. The Act is intended for the equal benefit of all classes, without reference to religious denomination or calling, and more interest and excitement has been aroused in regard to it than on any matter yet brought before the public. So far as can at present be seen, the Act is working well; but it may probably have in some minor points to be modified. The number of schools and scholars has largely increased, as all classes of the community can now receive benefit under the system laid down.

Telegraphic Communication.

3. Among the principal events of the year is the connection of the capital by telegraph lines with the Eastern and Southern Districts, and in the course of a few months a further line will place King George's Sound in momentary communication with these districts, as well as with Perth and Fremantle.

Steam Communication.

4. I regret I am not enabled to report the advent of steam communication between the several ports of the Colony; difficulties arose in more than one instance when it was hoped definite arrangements had been made. I am sanguine that negotiations now in train may result in bringing about this most desirable event.

Harvest.

5. The anticipations of a plenteous harvest, which were universal till within a few weeks of the ripening of the crops, were sadly blighted by the reappearance of "red rust," which spread rapidly over the wheat crops in many parts of the Colony to such an extent as, in some instances, not to repay the labour of reaping, and in very many to reduce the yield per acre to within the quantity originally sown. Heavy floods and storms which unexpectedly made their appearance damaged a considerable portion of those which were not inflicted with rust, and poverty and distress is the rule rather than the exception at the present juncture among those whose livelihood has depended on the culture of the soil.

A succession of bad seasons has done much to impoverish the small farmer, whose position would often be improved were he a labourer instead of a dependent on advances made to him by the storekeeper.

There is, however, reason to hope that though much suffering has resulted, the system of advances has received a check, and that the present depression it may be hoped will have some good as well as evil effects.

Pauperism.

6. It is useless to conceal the fact that poverty and distress are greatly on the increase, and a very general impression exists that unless some influx of capital appears, some new interests open, or some large public works are undertaken, the poverty to which I have alluded will spread rapidly and become an evil of great magnitude.

The class of people of whom the major portion of the labouring population is composed are not fit to cope with evil times; they have been too long dependent on Government aid. In every difficulty that occurs they seem paralyzed, and look to the Government to help them; and however willing the Government may be, it is palpable that, with a depreciatory colonial revenue, a large decrease in the Imperial expenditure, an utter absence of immigration, and a stoppage of public works for lack of funds, that the help the Government can afford is but little. It is idle to conceal that a time of grievous trial is before the Colony, and that strong and prompt measures will have to be taken to avert evils that now threaten a large class of the colonists, among whom there is a strong and growing feeling that this is a fit time to undertake certain public works by means of a loan. It may be well, in speaking of pauperism, to observe that it probably would decrease if there existed, among those possessing means in the Colony, a greater spirit of enterprise and a stronger desire to further the development of the many interests that require nothing but energy and capital to become self-supporting. There is undoubtedly a large amount of savings and idle capital in the Colony, locked up, demonstrating a want of enterprise among its possessors, and tending to show that capitalists rely rather on a narrow hand-to-mouth system, than a desire boldly to open up the many resources of a profitable nature, without which it appears hopeless to expect the Colony to make satisfactory progress.

Statistical Information.

7. The returns in the Blue Book afford full information as to the position of the Colony. Notwithstanding the somewhat gloomy picture I have painted, I should regret to convey as my opinion that the state of the Colony is not sound.

The following figures will show that there is nothing radically wrong, and if work could now be found for those whose occupation has gone, and the Colony be stimulated with a little immigration of good labour, and be blessed with one or two seasons free from drought and blight, I think the present grave depression would prove but temporary:—

	1870.			1871.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Revenue (general Colonial) -	98,131	17	1	97,605	9	6
Expenditure „ -	113,046	4	6	1,071,147	15	6
Convict expenditure - -	67,868	12	3	60,128	3	6
Imports - - - -	213,258	19	3	198,010	16	9
Exports - - - - -	200,984	17	6	199,280	11	6
Population - - - -	25,084			25,353		
Horses - - - -	22,174			22,698		
Cattle - - - - -	45,213			49,593		
Sheep - - - -	608,892			670,999		
Tonnage (entered) - - -	65,716			62,279		
„ (cleared) - -	67,730			64,669		
Land granted, acres - -	10,940			4,536		
„ leased „ - -	12,238,291			10,704,952		
Acreage in crops - - -	54,527			58,324		

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

A comparison of the above figures with those in the returns of ten years ago show at all events a steady if not a rapid progress. The revenue has increased one-third since that date. The acreage in crop, the exports, and the number of horses and sheep have doubled. The land leased has increased 70 per cent.; the horned cattle have increased 50 per cent. On the other hand, the tonnage entered and cleared has varied but little, and the sale of land has not greatly improved.

Pearl Shell Fishery.

8. The pearl shell fishery on the north-west coast bids fair to become an important trade; the price now quoted is in excess of 200*l.* per ton, and the take already is said to exceed 150 tons, and this with but very rough appliances for carrying on the fishery.

Wool.

9. The steady rise in the price of wool has been a great boon to the settlers throughout the Colony, and proved a stand-by at a time when other resources failed. I am glad to report that the increase in the flocks and the wool crop during 1871 is well spoken of throughout the Colony.

Jarrah Timber Trade.

10. The demand for Jarrah timber in India has not been so great during 1871 as in previous years, and I fear that it is in some measure to be attributed to careless shipments. The companies now at work in the Colony have invested too largely to risk any loss through such cause for the future. Competition is already reducing the price at which it has been supplied, and orders are coming in from various parts, as the valuable properties of this timber are becoming known. A very large trade and a consequent increase in the tonnage may fairly be anticipated ere very long.

Criminal Statistics.

11. I have prepared the criminal statistics as far as possible in accordance with the forms prescribed in the instructions sent from Downing Street. The total number of convictions in the Colony was 3,682 in 1871, as compared with 3,413 in 1870.

It will be found that the majority of the offences were of a very trivial character, and though the number is large in proportion to the population, it is not a matter of much marvel when the status of the population is considered.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) FRED. P. BARLEE.

Governor Weld,
&c. &c.

[J. C. B.]

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir H. BARKLY, K.C.B., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Government House, Cape Town, May 27, 1872.

I WRITE this Despatch to accompany the Blue Book of the Cape Colony for 1871.

2. Probably no more prosperous year is noted in its annals.

3. The seasons were in most districts favourable for agricultural and pastoral pursuits; the prices of produce ruled high both in colonial and European markets; and trade, thus rendered brisk, attained an extraordinary development through the operations necessary for the supply of the wants of a large population suddenly congregated on the Diamond-fields.

4. The effects of the prosperity created by these combined causes are clearly perceptible throughout the returns, although those causes had begun so far to operate in 1870, that the improvement is much more marked by comparison with the returns of previous years.

5. *Taxes, Duties, &c.*

No change was made during last session of Parliament with regard to any of the sources of revenue.

6. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

This return is still in the old form, the incomings and outgoings of the Treasury, of whatever nature, being designated respectively as above. Deducting, as in the annexed statement, from the total of 836,174*l.* shown on the credit side, all mere items of account, the nett ordinary revenue stands at 711,713*l.*, whilst the nett ordinary expenditure is reduced by a similar process from 764,915*l.* to 622,075*l.* This makes the actual surplus 89,638*l.* Comparing these figures with those of last year, the increase of revenue will be found to be 50,320*l.*, whilst there is a decrease in the expenditure amounting to 3,700*l.* The latter must be due to accidental postponement of payments. The former is mainly attributable to larger receipts (42,000*l.*) for Customs duties on imported merchandise.

7. *Balances.*

As the financial returns of 1870 exhibited a surplus of above 35,000*l.*, the occurrence in a second year of one of nearly 90,000*l.* gives a greatly improved aspect to the General Account Current, the balances in the Treasury and Divisional Chests, and in the hands of the Crown Agents, having risen from 101,259*l.* to 212,571*l.* between the 1st January and the 31st December, 1871. A considerable portion of this augmentation has since been applied to the repayment of "loans in aid," contracted during the previous difficulties of the Colony, and I trust that the whole of the 80,000*l.* lent by the Cape

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of Good Hope Bank will be liquidated before the end of the present year. For 25,000*l.* of the amount thus repaid however, debentures, under the Kowie Harbour Improvement Act, 16 of 1869, have been issued to the Master of the Supreme Court, who advanced a similar sum from the Guardian Fund, under his management, to pay off the Bank.

This transaction was perfectly regular, as the Master is authorized by law to invest in Government Debentures. The sum of 145,000*l.* previously borrowed from the Guardians' Fund by Government, as mentioned in my Despatch with last year's Blue Book, still remains due, and may be safely treated as a permanent addition to the public debt, since the amount is little likely to be required, the annual deposits more than exceeding the payments of the Master.

8. *Public Debt, Sinking Fund, &c.*

The distinction drawn under this heading between "Loans raised by Debentures and Stock," &c., and "Loans raised for Public Works under the management of Corporate Bodies, the redemption of which has been guaranteed by the Colonial Government," is not a very definite one—the money in both cases being taken up by Government on the credit of the Colony. It does not even range in the same category all loans for which the Legislature has exacted a sub-guarantee in the shape of local rating, for the Statement is this year disturbed by the transfer from the latter to the former class of loans of the 76,500*l.* debentures issued on account of the "Kowie Mouth Harbour" (Port Alfred), owing to the dissolution of the company by Act 16 of 1869.

The sub-guarantee in that case is not as yet very productive, but at Port Elizabeth the Sinking Fund is rapidly accumulating, and in the case of the Table Bay Harbour Works, the wharfage and dock dues suffice, after payment of all working expenses, to cover the entire interest on the 299,950*l.* expended on the construction of the breakwater and dock, so that such works as these, at any rate in prosperous times, entail no real burden.

The aggregate of loans in the two classes amounts to 1,546,957*l.*, as against 1,569,907*l.* in 1870, the reduction of 22,950*l.* being the value of debentures of various loans bought up and cancelled by the commissioners of the Sinking Fund established under Act 9 of 1864.

Of the total appropriations to that fund, amounting on 31st December, 1871, to 93,924*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, the remainder are represented either by investments in Crown Land Bonds, or by remittances in the hands of the Crown Agents for the purchase of the debentures of the Colony in the English market.

9. *Public Works.*

None of magnitude were in progress. Larger sums, however, than for several years back were expended in the repair of buildings, and in the maintenance of the roads. Further sections also of some of the main lines of communication with the interior were for the first time macadamized, and the principal streams intersecting them bridged.

Two undertakings of consequence received, moreover, the sanction of the Legislature, and the necessary preparations were made for commencing them early in the present year.

One of these was the carrying out of the works for improving the harbour of East London, according to the plans of Mr. (now Sir John) Coode, towards the necessary expenditure on which a loan of 100,000*l.* was authorized by a special Act to be raised. The other was the construction of a railway from Port Elizabeth to the Zwartkops River, the first work of the kind begun in the Eastern Province. For many years indeed the question had been mooted, and so far back as 1862 an Act was passed, empowering the Government to enter into contracts for a line from thence to Graham's Town, a distance of nearly 100 miles, but all enterprises of this kind were shortly afterwards brought to a standstill by the financial embarrassments of the Colony, and beyond the making of the preliminary survey, nothing was done.

Reviving prosperity led to the proposal by a private company for a short line to the adjacent town of Uitenhage, and as the first seven or eight miles were identical with the route projected to Graham's Town, and presented no engineering difficulties, I took advantage of the opportunity to obtain permission from both Houses to let the Public Works Department make them, so as to pave the way for the more extensive schemes both in the east and west, to which I had invited attention in my Minute.

10. *Population, Education, Crime, &c.*

I have little to add to what I stated last year on these subjects. The latest census of the population was taken in 1865, and it is said to have been by no means complete or accurate. A new one is much wanted, both for political and statistical purposes, and the colonial finances are fortunately now in a position to bear the expense, which in so large and sparsely peopled a country is considerable. I do not know, however, whether the Legislature will be disposed to sanction such a measure before the expiration of the decennial period.

The educational returns furnish the usual detailed information on this subject, but I enclose also the Report from the Superintendent-General of Education, by which they were accompanied when laid before the Cape Parliament, which is interesting and satisfactory. Dr. Dale's remarks on institutions and schools for the aborigines are deserving of careful consideration, as they go to the very root of what is known as "the Native Question," than which none is more important to the welfare of South Africa. Those remarks are, on the whole, of a cheering character, as they show continuous progress attended with a certain amount of success. Taking schools of all sorts, there appears, on comparison with last year's Report, to be an increase from 438 to 486, and of scholars in attendance during some portion of the year, from 40,142 to 43,099. The daily attendance, however, averaged only 21·310.

These figures compare favourably, nevertheless, with those which Dr. Dale quotes from the education statistics of Great Britain for

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1868, for there about 1 in 30 were at school, whilst in the Cape Colony the proportion exceeded 1 in 25.

I am happy to be able to add that the serious defect pointed out in the Superintendent's Report has at length, after the lapse of ten years, been remedied, the Legislature having voted at its late session salaries for two Deputy Inspectors of Schools, so as to admit of every aided school being inspected at least once a year.

I am sorry to say the improved Forms, relating to criminal justice and to prison discipline, which your Lordship desired to have inserted in the annual Blue Book, have not yet been furnished by the proper officers, and the old return as to gaols and prisoners has alone been filled in. Further directions on the subject have been issued, and I am still in hopes of being able to transmit amended criminal statistics with this Despatch.

Meanwhile I enclose copy of the Memorandum on the convict establishments, as annually presented to Parliament, from which very favourable conclusions may be drawn, the number undergoing sentence at the several stations, which, on the 1st January, 1869, amounted to 1,621, having declined on 31st December, 1871, to 969, or to take the averages of the three years, which is, perhaps, fairer, they stand at

1,411 in 1869
1,194 in 1870
1,068 in 1871

indicating clearly the continuous diminution of serious offences consequent on the reviving prosperity of the country. Only one capital sentence was carried out during the year, but a second, passed towards its close, subsequently took effect.

The returns relating to hospitals and asylums have already, as desired by Circular of the 27th January, been forwarded in anticipation with my Despatch of 15th May last, No. 51, and require thus no further elucidation.

11. *Shipping, Imports and Exports.*

It seems strange, at first sight, that, whilst the value of both imports and exports went on steadily increasing, the number and tonnage of vessels entering inwards from abroad continued to decline, though not nearly in the same ratio as during the former year.

It will be found, however, on closer examination, that the decrease as regards tonnage was due solely to vessels in ballast, the 307 vessels that arrived with cargoes in 1871 gauging about 1,500 tons more than the 326 bringing cargo in 1870.

On the other hand, both the number and tonnage of vessels coastwise was much larger, so that it would appear as if, on the whole, the augmented commerce of the Colony had more than counteracted the ill effects of the opening of the Suez Canal, which, as I showed last year, occasioned at first an aggregate reduction of more than 10 per cent. in the average of shipping.

The declared value of merchandise imported in 1871 was 2,585,290*l.*, against 2,352,043*l.* in 1870, almost the whole in both cases having been at once entered for consumption.

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This increase is, however, far transcended under the head of exports, the valuation of which was 3,408,635*l.*, in lieu of 2,569,499*l.* in 1870. Nor is the principal item of increase, as might be supposed, diamonds—the declared value of which only rose from 153,460*l.* to 403,349*l.*, or barely a quarter of a million—but wool, the clip of which was abundant, and the prices high, so that the export of 1871 exceeded in value that of the preceding year by nearly half a million sterling. In other articles no very noticeable change occurred, though they were more valuable in the aggregate by at least a hundred thousand pounds than in 1870.

Last year it was doubtful whether the diamonds exported were not over-valued on this side, though it was generally admitted, on the other hand, that many had been carried away without any declaration at the Custom House. This year there can be no question that far more than the four hundred thousand pounds' worth of diamonds declared at the Customs were shipped, for it was only by a few firms that that precaution was adopted with a view to prevent any question with the underwriters, while large packets were transmitted every mail through the Post Office, without any declaration whatever. I endeavoured to obtain information as to the value of these packets at the time of registration, but it was in most cases refused ; and, as the Colonial Postmaster thought it might create an idea of Government liability, the attempt was not persevered in. The lowest estimate I have seen, however, of the value of all the diamonds that left the Colony during the last year is two millions sterling, and I have heard well-informed persons place it much higher.

Looking at the very large amount of specie introduced, partly to meet the increased circulation of the banks, but mainly with a view to pay for purchases at the diggings, it may fairly be inferred that the balance of trade was greatly against the mother country. In the returns for the year ending 31st December, 1871, this amount is stated at 522,540*l.* sterling, but during the first month of the present year a further amount of 475,270*l.* was added, making a total of close upon a million of sovereigns.

Further influx has been checked by the reported falling off in the number and value of diamonds found, and unless fresh fields are opened up, it is not improbable that re-exportation of part of this gold must be resorted to.

This question of fresh discoveries is, in fact, one of the most important questions for the commercial community, both in Europe and this Colony, but it is of course almost impossible to arrive at correct conclusions on a subject involving so many elements of uncertainty.

That the original diggings on both banks of the Vaal, which were during the past year almost deserted for the "Dry Diggings," as they are called, on account of their lying at a distance from that on any other river (the nearest point of the Vaal being about 14 miles off), are so far from exhausted, that they will still, for many years to come, yield gems as splendid as any yet found in them, there can be little doubt. In all probability they will be extended both higher up and lower down the Vaal River, from Christiana to its confluence with the Orange River.

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Diamonds too will doubtless, as hitherto, continue occasionally to be discovered throughout the immense area in which trap dykes have been formed through the elevated lacustrine deposits known to geologists as the Dicynodon beds. Innumerable basins indeed, resembling in all respects that which has attained such celebrity under the name of Du Toit's Pan, are to be found in Griqualand West, the Orange Free State, and this Colony, any one of which may prove to be equally rich.

But to maintain the very large number of diggers of European origin now congregated at and around the Dry Diggings of Du Toit's Pan and De Beer's, far more brilliant discoveries than these are unquestionably required, and unless another "Colesberg Kopje," as the new rush on the latter farm is styled, be shortly found, the greater part of that population will be destitute of profitable occupation; and though the colonists may, for the most part, return to their farms and their stores, great distress must ensue among the immigrants from Europe, and others of that class.

Now there are many kopjes or hillocks to be seen around, and, reasoning *a priori*, the reseems no ground to suppose that the diggers should at once have hit upon the only one of them in which such marvellous treasures lay buried. It is true that in Australia the richest gold-fields were opened up within a few years after the first nugget had been discovered, but there alluvial deposits of nearly equal richness occurred at intervals along a line of hundreds of miles, which is very different from this profusion of diamonds being limited to the dozen acres covered by Colesberg Kopje; and as no theory yet propounded explains the limitation of such rich deposits to that particular spot, it may, not unreasonably, be hoped, that they will yet be found to exist elsewhere when the conditions are similar.

The time that will be taken to work out all existing claims at the kopje is variously estimated at from six months to two years, but the population is already rapidly dispersing. Fortunately the mineral resources of the interior of South Africa seem well nigh boundless. Several hundred diggers have already made their way to the newly discovered gold-fields of Marabastad, in the South African Republic, about 350 miles beyond Klipdrift, where the indications are said to be of a more promising character than at the remoter Tatin quartz reefs on the Limpopo River.

Within the Colony gold has not yet been found in payable quantities, though the rocks, extending over a large portion of its area, are to all appearance so identical with those of Australia, that geologists from that continent are convinced of its existence.

Mr. Dunn, formerly of the Victorian Geological Survey, whom I engaged, with the concurrence of the Executive Council, to prospect, especially in Namaqualand, whence auriferous specimens had been forwarded, reports that, although unable to find sufficiently favourable indications of the precious metal, he considers that the deposits of copper in that part of the Colony are only now beginning to be got at, and he is firmly persuaded that these will ultimately prove more valuable even than the Diamond-fields.

Similar deposits of copper are said to exist beyond the Orange River, in Griqualand West, besides other metals and minerals.

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I am not apprehensive, for these and other reasons, even if the yield of diamonds largely diminishes, of any sudden collapse in the present prosperous condition of colonial trade, but I should be very sorry, nevertheless, to see emigration from Europe to the Fields extending, or even going on on its present scale, until prospects are more assured in that quarter.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY BARKLY,
Governor.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

P.S.—August 19.—Having been much delayed in completing this Despatch, I made certain of being able to forward with it the new Forms of Criminal Statistics, as promised, but up to the present moment they have not reached me, and as I understand that they are not yet complete, I must defer their transmission to a future opportunity.

H. B.

Enclosure 1 in No. 10.

Enclosure 1 in No. 10.

STATEMENT showing the TRUE SURPLUS in the year 1871.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Total revenue (according to printed Statements) in 1871				836,173	19	10
Deduct items of account—						
1. Advances	10,125	8	9			
2. Loans raised	91,385	17	6			
3. Receipts from Sinking Fund for redeeming public debt	22,950	0	0			
				124,461	6	3
Nett actual ordinary revenue				£711,712	13	7

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Total expenditure (according to printed Statements) in 1871				764,914	12	10
Deduct items of account—						
1. Advances	12,504	2	9			
2. Loans repaid	38,950	0	0			
3. Debt and liability of the late Kowie Harbour Company, taken over by the Government	91,385	17	6			
				142,840	0	3
Nett actual ordinary expenditure				£622,074	12	7

	£	s.	d.
Total actual ordinary revenue, 1871	711,712	13	7
„ „ expenditure, 1871	622,074	12	7
Actual surplus	£89,638	1	0

Colonial Office,
April 9, 1872.

(Signed) CHARLES MILLS.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Enclosure 2 in No. 10.

Enclosure 2 in No. 10.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.—No. 61, 1872.

Colonial Office, Cape of Good Hope,
February 1, 1872.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct the publication of the following Statement showing the disposal of the moneys received by the "Commissioners for administering the Sinking Fund of the Cape of Good Hope," under the provisions of the Act No. 9 of 1864, for the year ending 31st December, 1871, and the state of the fund on that day.

By command of his Excellency the Governor,
R. SOUTHEY,
Colonial Secretary.

ACCOUNT CURRENT of the COMMISSIONERS for ADMINISTERING the SINKING FUND of the CAPE of GOOD HOPE, under ACT No. 9 of 1864, for the Year ending 31st DECEMBER, 1870, and STATE of the FUND on that day.

Dr. *Cr.*

Receipts during 1871.	£	s.	d.	*Payments during* 1871.	£	s.	d.
January 1, 1871:—				December 31, 1871:—			
To Cash per balance from last Account	3,423	12	1	Invested in Crown Land Bonds (capital)	2,419	2	2
December 31:—				Advanced for accrued interest on same	162	14	9
To Capital received on Crown Land Bonds	7,735	17	10	Invested in Loan to Government, under Act 24 of 1869	3,500	0	0
„ Interest received on ditto	3,327	5	7	Premium paid on ditto.	21	17	0
„ Interest on Loan to Government under Act 24 of 1869	87	10	0	Remitted to Crown Agents for the purchase of debentures	24,650	0	0
„ Do. on deposit in savings bank	17	18	3	Colonial Government, for Government Debentures redeemed under Act 9 of 1864, and handed to the Treasurer-General in extinction of so much of the Colonial Debt, viz.:—			
„ Do. on 5 Debentures due prior to cancellation	15	0	0				
„ Contribution from Colonial Revenue	11,617	1	6				
„ Amount received under Act 5 of 1870	5,169	6	7				
„ Discount on Bills on England, remitted to Crown Agents	575	0	0				
„ Government Debentures purchased by Crown Agents, and cancelled per contra	1,855	0	0				
„ Government Debentures under Act 17 of 1858, cancelled from 1865 to 1867, and now written off	21,250	0	0	213 Debentures under Act 17 of 1858 (purchased from 1865 to 1867), and now written off	21,250	0	0
				5 Debentures under Act 26 of 1861 (cancelled)	500	0	0
				2 Debentures under Act 8 of 1860 (ditto)	200	0	0
				2 Debentures under Act 14 of 1863 (ditto)	1,000	0	0
				Premium and Brokerage paid on purchase of the above last 9 Debentures in England	155	0	0
				Balance cash in hand	1,214	17	11
	£55,370	11	10		£55,073	11	10

(Signed) J. C. DAVIDSON, Chairman.
E. M. COLE,
GEO. J. NICHOLLS,
JOHN T. EUSTACE, } Members.

29th January, 1872.

State of the Fund on the 31*st December*, 1871.

December 31, 1871:—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To capital paid-off on Crown Land Bond during the year				7,735	17	10
„ Government Debentures, redeemed under Act 9 of 1864, and handed to the Treasurer-General in extinction of so much of the Colonial Debt, viz.:—						
213 Debentures under Act 17 of 1858	21,250	0	0			
5 Ditto, ditto, 26 of 1861	500	0	0			
2 Ditto, ditto, 8 of 1860	200	0	0			
2 Ditto, ditto, 14 of 1863	1,000	0	0			
				22,950	0	0
To Premium and Brokerage paid on purchase of the above last 9 Debentures in England				155	0	0
„ Balance carried down				63,083	14	6
				£93,924	12	4

January 1, 1871:—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By amounts invested to date, viz.:—						
In Government Debentures	21,250	0	0			
In Crown Land Bonds	42,105	10	2			
				63,355	10	2
December 31:—						
By amount invested this year in Loan to Government, under Act 24 of 1869	3,500	0	0			
„ In Crown Land Bond	2,419	2	2			
„ Remittance to Crown Agents for purchase of Debentures in England	24,650	0	0			
				30,569	2	2
				£93,924	12	4

January 1, 1872:—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By balance brought down, being amount at present invested as follows:—						
Loan to Government	3,500	0	0			
Capital on Crown Land Bonds still unpaid	36,788	14	6			
Cash still in hand of Crown Agents to purchase Debentures	22,795	0	0			
				63,083	14	6
Cash in hand awaiting investment				1,214	17	11
				£64,298	12	5

(Signed) J. C. DAVIDSON, Chairman.
E. M. COLE,
GEO. J. NICHOLLS, } Members.
JOHN T. EUSTACE,

29th January, 1872.

Enclosure 3 in No. 10.

Enclosure 3 in No. 10.

REPORT of the SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL of EDUCATION for the year 1871.

Office of the Superintendent-General of Education,
Cape Town, February 21, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honour to furnish my Report on the Department of Public Education for the year 1871.

2. The statistical Tables which accompany this Report, and the other documents compiled from the annual school returns, will place the Government in possession of full information regarding each branch of the system administered by this department.

3. The Appendix contains short notes of visits which I have been able to make to schools. Interruptions to the inspection of schools in Cape Town and the neighbourhood were caused by the prevalence of influenza, measles, fever, and dysentery, which disturbed the attendance during the last six months of the year, and necessitated the closing of several large schools at unusual periods.

4. During the interval between the completion of my annual Report and the session of the Board of Public Examiners, I made a general tour of inspection through the divisions and districts of Prince Albert, Aberdeen, Graaff-Reinet, Cradock, Middelburg, Colesberg, Hanover, Richmond, Victoria West, and Fraserburg.

5. The Department of Public Education has had in operation during the year three Government Schools, established under the old system of 1839; 159 Undenominational Public Schools; 253 Mission Schools; and 71 Industrial Institutions and Schools. In these 486 institutions and schools, 43,099 children have been in attendance during some portion of the year.

6. The comparative distribution of the orders of schools and expenditure is as follows:—

	Western Districts.		Eastern Districts.	
	1870.	1871.	1870.	1871.
Established Schools	1	1	2	2
Undenominational Public Schools	109	109	46	50
Mission Schools	154	159	78	94
Native Industrial and Day Schools	1	1	47	70

	Office and Rent.	Contingencies.	Schools.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Western Districts - -	1,407 1 8	622 12 6	11,201 13 4
Eastern Districts - - -	nil.	730 4 5	9,956 10 0

7. The Government expenditure for the instruction, primary and superior, of children of all classes, and for the maintenance and industrial training of Kafir apprentices and boarders, has been 23,918*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*; consisting of the following particulars:—

Establishment.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Office staff and teachers of Government Schools - - - -	2,390	0	0			
Rent of office and schools - - -	305	1	8			
Contingencies - - - - -	166	1	4			
				2,861	3	0

Exclusive of Establishment.

	£	s.	d.			
Grants for teachers in Undenominational Public Schools - -	6,791	13	4			
Grants for teachers in Mission Schools - - - - - -	9,518	10	0			
School requisites - - - - -	697	3	9			
Contingencies - - - - -	38	1	0			
				17,045	8	1

Border Department—(*Schedule D*).

	£	s.	d.			
Grants for teachers and for maintenance and training of native boarders - - - - - -	3,788	0	0			
School requisites - - - - -	223	10	10			
				4,011	10	10
				£23,918	1	11

8. The expenditure by local authorities for the same objects and for school buildings amounted, during the year, to 27,145*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.*

9. The rates of expenditure for the purposes of public education have been as follows for the last three years:—

	1869.	1870.	1871.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Government - -	23,473 7 5	23,045 0 1	23,918 1 11
Local - - - -	26,069 10 0	24,145 1 1½	27,145 17 7
	£49,542 17 5	47,190 1 2½	51,063 19 6

10. It may be useful to compare the average attendance and rate of expenditure for education in this Colony with the ascertained proportions of attendance and of expenditure in other countries.

Tasmania, 1869.—Compulsory attendance of all, between the ages of 7 and 12, who live within one mile of a public school,—number of

schools, 116; number of children on the rolls, 9,316; average daily attendance, 4,511. Average total cost per head of scholar in daily attendance, 2*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.* per annum.

South Australia, 1869.—Number of licensed schools, 330; number of children on the rolls, 16,328; average daily attendance, 13,220. Average total cost per head of those in daily attendance, 2*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* per annum, of which the Government pays two-thirds. Government expenditure, 21,643*l.*

Great Britain, 1868.—In an ascertained number of schools, viz. 8,397, attended on the average by 1,098,952 children, the average total cost per scholar per annum was 1*l.* 6*s.* 8¼*d.*; of this amount the Government pays one-third. But if the expenses of administration and inspection are added, the cost per scholar would be one-third more, making the Government expenditure nearly 18*s.* per scholar per annum.

Massachusetts, 1869.—Total amount expended on public schools is equivalent to 19 dollars per child of school-going age, from 5 to 15 years.

Cape Colony, 1871.—Number of schools, 486; number of children on the rolls, 43,099; average daily attendance, 21,810. Average total cost per child in daily attendance, 2*l.* 6*s.* 9¾*d.*, of which amount the Government pays 1*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* Total amount expended on public education is equivalent to 8*s.* per child of school-going age, from 5 to 15 years.

Established Schools.

11. The three schools of the first class, established under the old system, without local aid and co-operation, continue to be fairly attended. They are situated at Uitenhage, Somerset East, and Worcester. The number of scholars during the year has been 234; the total cost has been 1,305*l.* 1*s.*

Undenominational Public Schools.

12. Of Class III., schools among the agricultural population, 92 have been in operation during the year. The usual Government grant is 30*l.*; but in eight cases, where the number of children who can attend is below the required minimum, viz. 20 to 30, a half grant, 15*l.*, has been given.

Of Class II., village schools, with Government grants ranging from 50*l.* to 75*l.* per annum, there are 54 in operation.

Of Class I., 13 schools in the chief towns of the respective divisions have been aided. There are only five completely organized schools of the first class, with superior and elementary departments, each under its own qualified teacher. These are entitled to the maximum grant of 200*l.* per annum. The rest receive the grant of 125*l.*, being half-salary of the principal teacher.

13. The public schools have been attended during the year by 6,234 scholars, of whom 509 have received instruction in some subjects of the superior course. The cost to Government has been 6,791*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* The exodus to the Diamond-fields has affected these schools, and several remain closed, both managers and scholars being absent.

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Mission Schools.

14. These schools are 253 in number, and are attended by 31,039 children, chiefly of the coloured and mixed races. A Mission School of the first-class consists of a series of departments—infant, juvenile, and industrial (girls)—and enjoys the maximum grant of 75*l.* per annum; where there is one mixed school under one teacher, the grant is 30*l.*

15. The fundamental rule as regards attendance is, that in each department to which a separate grant is attached, a daily attendance of 30 to 40 children must be maintained.

16. The cost to Government for the year 1871 has been 9,518*l.* 10*s.*

17. The Mission Schools are managed and supported by religious societies, acting in concert with this department to provide instruction of an elementary kind for the children of those portions of the population which, from poverty, ignorance, and similar causes, are wholly unable to found and manage their own schools.

18. To test more accurately the standard of attainments of the scholars attending the district Mission Schools of Cape Town and the neighbourhood, I held a competitive examination in December, to which 32 schools were invited to send competitors. Twenty-six girls and twenty-seven boys were present, as representatives of 17 schools. The result of the examination, though not as a whole satisfactory, showed a fair standard of work in a few schools.

19. The subjects of examination were restricted to the English language, arithmetic—including vulgar fractions and proportion—and handwriting.

Institutions and Schools for Aborigines.

20. The main stations are the Free Church Seminary, Lovedale; the Wesleyan Fingo Institution, Heald Town; the English Church Kafir Institutions at Zonnebloem, near Cape Town, and at Graham's Town; Kieskamma Hoek; Newlands, near East London; and the Gwytyu.

21. These, with their subsidiary day-schools, provide school instruction for 5,542 children of Fingoes, Kafirs, or Tambookies, and industrial training for 269, who are boarders in some one of the Institutions. At the kraal or out-station schools, the instruction is rudimentary, and chiefly in Kafir.

22. The Government expenditure for the year was 3,788*l.*

23. The arrangements contemplated in my last Report for extending aid to schools among the Fingoes and Tambookies who recently migrated from the Colony to occupy stations pointed out by the Government in the Transkei territory, have been completed, and 22 schools have been in regular work since 1st July. Applications for aid are still numerous; but there is necessarily some delay in procuring duly qualified native teachers.

24. The general conditions on which aid is given to the Transkei schools from the funds reserved under Schedule D of the Constitution Ordinance, are these:—

a. That no assistance shall be given except to those schools which are situated at places previously approved by the Superintendent-General of Education, among Fingoes or Tambookies emigrant from the Colony, and which are conducted by native schoolmasters certified to have been trained for school-work in colonial institutions.

b. That every aided school shall be conducted in English as well as in Kafir, within a reasonable time from the date of opening.

c. That no Government allowance, at first, shall exceed 20*l.* per annum.

d. That a fair local contribution towards the teacher's salary or maintenance shall be made in every case.

25. The training of native teachers at Graham's Town, Heald Town, Lovedale, and to some extent at Zonnebloem, enables me to introduce into all these schools teachers of fair qualifications; and cases will occur where those who were put in charge of schools, when there was a scarcity of qualified men, will have to give place to men of higher education and of practical skill in school-keeping.

26. Should any imperfectly educated teachers wish to spend a year at any one of the institutions to improve themselves, and if possible to qualify themselves for certificates of competency, I have arranged with the local authorities to further this object. In this way the hardship of dismissing a deserving, but imperfectly educated man, will be removed, or at least mitigated.

27. It is as yet premature to try to measure the results of the great efforts which are being put forth for the instruction and civilization of the native races. There exists at present an antipathy on the part of many employers of labour to the christianized or mission Kafir, and it is erroneously inferred that the education which he receives renders him less trustworthy and useful. That the sense of freedom from the bondage of tribal customs, restraints, and oppressive exactions should lead to some anomalies in the behaviour of natives whose school-training is still imperfect, and whose moral feelings are but partially influenced by Christian instruction, is to be expected in a state of transition from utter savageism.

28. The assumption of the garb and the habits of civilized life leads the native to form exaggerated notions of civil liberty and equality, and his imperfect knowledge of the relations of society engenders self-assertion and an offensive demeanour towards others. The few native lads who have enjoyed a thorough school-training occupy a position both singular and dangerous. They are conspicuous; much is expected from them; but their very advantages have made a wide breach between themselves and their heathen kindred, and have been at the same time inoperative or inadequate to open to them a way into higher social intercourse: so that the educated Kafir, standing between the civilized European and the raw native, and having now no link with either, is in danger of gravitating towards the companionship of Europeans of a low type, whose moral and intellectual standards are scarcely higher than those of the heathen.

29. Much of the influence exercised by civilized people tends undoubtedly to the injury of the native: he superadds their refined vices to the grosser habits of his race. This anomalous state may be gradually removed by a more general spread of civilization among larger numbers, both of males and females, by which communities of educated natives will be formed. In these, their own standard of social behaviour and respectability will be set up and maintained by popular opinion and concurrence.

30. There are many customs which are adverse to the realization

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of such progress; these are—Ukulobola, or the purchase of wives; polygamy; and circumcision, with its accompanying rites and immoralities. When the native woman occupies the same relative position to the man that woman enjoys in civilized society, then only can a sure basis be considered as set up.

31. The arrangements hitherto made for the domestic training of native girls have been too limited, the only complete institution being that connected with the Free Church Mission at Lovedale. The ordinary course of school instruction is supplemented by household work of different kinds, suited to girls, as sewing, washing, and dressmaking. A considerable number of girls attend the mixed day-schools; but residence in an institution, where conformity to the habits of civilized life is enforced, is necessary for the training of girls, whether for domestic service or the decent management of their own homes.

32. The native lads are generally engaged in various branches of industry,—carpentry, wagon-making, smith's work, printing, tailoring, and shoemaking; those at Heald Town are trained exclusively as schoolmasters, for which the large and well-conducted day-school connected with the institution offers unusual facilities. Arrangements are in progress at Lovedale for giving to a limited number of apprentices a practical knowledge of farming, including the use of the appliances of modern husbandry, and of more economical methods of labour than those which are prevalent among the Kafirs. A class for the study of agricultural chemistry has been at work there during the latter part of the year.

33. An important step has been taken by the authorities at Lovedale towards the abolition of the gratuitous maintenance and instruction of native pupils. At this institution there have been 106 male and 36 female boarders during the year; and this—probably the highest number yet reached—has been maintained in spite of the introduction of school fees, which have realized 200*l.* during the year.

Departmental.

34. There is a serious defect, not so much in the system defined by Act No. 13, 1865, as in the inadequate machinery provided for working it. When the Legislature adopted the recommendations of the Education Commission of 1861–63 in regard to the principles of aid, it is singular that the measures deemed by the Commissioners necessary for the efficient direction of a system of grants-in-aid should have been rejected.

35. The passages of the Report of the Commission which bear on this subject are Nos. 32, 34, page lxxvii.:—"A system of grants-in-"aid from the Public Treasury implies, and for its success demands, "frequent and systematic inspection, on the part of the Government, "of all aided schools. Such inspection should embrace not only the "school-buildings, furniture, and other appliances, but also the attain-"ments of the scholars, with the view of ascertaining their progress "from time to time, and of supplying the Government with reliable "educational statistics; and should be conducted by competent persons "specially appointed thereto by the Governor."

"The extent, of the Colony and the number of schools liable to

inspection would appear to require two Deputy Inspectors, at a salary of 400*l.* per annum, with travelling allowances. Every aided school should be inspected at least once a year."

36. Whatever necessity there was in 1863 for the appointment of Deputy Inspectors, has been rendered now very urgent by the augmentation of the number of schools from 287 to 486, and of the territory over which they are spread.

37. It is expected of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools in England that each will inspect five schools a week during thirty-five weeks of the year; after formally reporting on each, his duties cease. If the facilities of locomotion in this Colony were similar, two Deputy Inspectors, along with the Superintendent-General, might overtake the work. For the purposes of inspection, it must be remembered that there are at least 500 schools or separate departments requiring to be examined and to be reported upon annually. I consider that an Inspector, having nothing to do with the general business of the department, could inspect and examine five schools a week during forty weeks of the year; but there would be exceptional places, which, from their remoteness and the difficulties of travelling with horses, could not be included in the annual circuit. The Head of the Department could undertake the inspection within a limited distance from Cape Town.

Pupil-Teacher Fund.

38. The interest of the Slave Compensation and Bible and School Commission Funds is paid to me by the Master of the Supreme Court, in terms of Act No. 13, 1865, for the payment and training of pupil-teachers in Mission Schools, established chiefly for the education of the poor.

39. The Slave Compensation Fund is a sum of 5,906*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, being the unappropriated balance of slave compensation due to this Colony. With the concurrence of the Secretary of State (Despatch No. 240, of 12th March, 1843), and in accordance with the resolutions of the Legislative Council, 19th October, 1843, the sum was vested in three trustees for the instruction of liberated Africans. The Education Act vests the capital in the Master of the Supreme Court, who pays me the half-yearly interest, 147*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*

40. The property of the Bible and School Commission consisted of school buildings in Keerom Street and New Street, and a fund collected in consequence of an appeal made by the Government in 1813, for contributions for the spread of the Scriptures and religious education. This money had been put out at interest, and the bonds were ceded to the Master in 1867. By the insolvency of J. A. Truter, formerly Secretary of the Bible and School Commission, a loss of 337*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* was sustained, and the capital sum (which amounted to 2,062*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*) was reduced to 1,788*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* The remainder of the loss was deducted from the interest payable to me, and amounted to 63*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*

41. It is estimated that, if no further loss occurs, the interest available half-yearly will be 44*l.* 19*s.* The school property has been for many years in the occupation of the Committee of the Model Infant School, kept by Mr. R. Byrne, but no revenue is derived from

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it. I may probably reckon in future on an annual income from both funds of 385*l.* 5*s.* for the payment of pupil-teachers.

42. But it will be necessary to reserve the right of curtailing the period of service of a pupil-teacher, should any further loss of capital require so arbitrary a step. Owing to the uncertain state of the fund, I declined throughout the year to fill up vacancies, so that there is a larger balance than usual at the bank.

43. Of the 77 pupil-teachers admitted since 1st April, 1866, 15 have become teachers, 24 are still in training; 38 have gone to other pursuits. The means at my disposal for training teachers are inadequate; and the supply of qualified teachers for the Public and Mission Schools is therefore irregular and unsatisfactory.

44. The training of teachers of Mission Schools in the diocese of Cape Town has been carried on, to a limited extent, at the institution, Zonnebloem; and application has been made by the Bishop for Government aid. The last Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church also had the subject under consideration; and it is understood that a system of pupil-teachers will be organized in approved schools, where facilities are provided for carrying out the scheme. The best and most economical way of co-operating with these religious societies in furthering the special training of teachers, appears to be the issue of an annual allowance of 12*l.* each to such young persons as satisfy me of their qualifications, and are actually under training in an institution approved by the Government.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) LANGHAM DALE,
Sup.-Gen. of Education.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c

Enclosure 4.

Enclosure 4 in No. 10.

MEMORANDUM upon the DISCIPLINE and MAINTENANCE of CONVICTS during the year 1871, submitted for the INFORMATION of HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

On the 31st December, 1871, the number of convicts undergoing sentence at the several stations was 969, distributed as follows:—

Table Bay Harbour Works	198
Robben Island	18
Tradouw	190
Port Elizabeth Harbour Works	114
Kowie Harbour Works	233
East London Harbour Works	100
Liefeldt's (near King William's Town)	116
	969

The number at stations at the same period of the previous year was 1,128, showing a decrease of 159 upon the total undergoing sentence.

593 newly-convicted men and 13 recaptured deserters were received

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during the year, making a total of 1,734 who have undergone punishment from 1st January to 31st December.

Of the 593 above mentioned, 248 were sentenced by the judges of the Supreme and Eastern Districts Courts, 263 by resident magistrates, 66 by Naval or Resident Magistrates' Courts, for breaches of the maritime laws. The remaining 16 were military prisoners.

The crimes for which these men were sentenced were as follows:—

Against the person.—Murder, culpable homicide, assault, &c.	79
Against property, with violence.—House, shop, and store-breaking, &c.	76
Against property, without violence.—Cattle and ordinary theft, receiving stolen goods, &c.	348
Malicious offences against property.—Arson	1
Miscellaneous offences.—Forgery, perjury, &c.	7
Offences against the maritime law	66
Military offences	16
Total	593

The average period of sentence passed upon each man by the Superior Courts was 2·349 years.

The number of second convictions was 96, third and upwards, 26.

Of the 248 convicted before the Supreme and Eastern Districts Courts, 243 were sentenced during 1871, the remainder during the previous year, 228 from Resident Magistrates' Courts were sentenced during the year, 35 remaining over from previous years; the whole of the naval and military prisoners were tried and sentenced during 1871.

The races of the newly-sentenced men were as follows:—

Europeans or of European descent	138
Hottentots, Bushmen, &c.	253
Natives of Border tribes (Kafirs, &c.)	202
	593

The total number of convicts, 1,734, was reduced during the year by 765, of whom 33 deserted, 20 died, 691 were discharged, 21 were transferred—2 to Robben Island, 1 to Somerset Hospital, 2 to George Gaol (unfit for hard labour), 2 to naval authorities, 14 to military ditto.

The general average of the year was 1,018, being 82 less than the number estimated for, employed as follows:—

Table Bay Harbour Works and Robben Island	264
George (to 4th July) and Port Elizabeth	142
Tradouw	230
Keiskama (to 9th Dec.), East London (from 15th Dec.), and Liefeldt's, near King William's Town	160
Kowie	222
	1,018

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Full particulars of the crimes and sentences of the prisoners received, the mitigations granted, minor punishments inflicted, &c., will be found in annexures No. 1 to 6.*

The educational Reports from the several stations are of a satisfactory nature.

Two Reports (in addition to those usually furnished by the chaplains) received from the Rev. Mr. Fisk, of the Table Bay Harbour Station, are annexed—Nos. 7 and 8.

The convicts (46 in number) transferred from Namaqualand on the 31st December, 1870, arrived in Cape Town on the 10th of the following month, and were taken on the strength of the breakwater gang.

On the 24th January 100 convicts were transferred from Cape Town to the Tradouw Station, arriving there on the 30th of that month.

The station at George was broken up on the 4th July, and the party of convicts, numbering 130, reached Port Elizabeth on the 13th, where they have since been employed on works in connection with the harbour at that place.

The convicts at the Keiskama (108) were transferred,—8 to Liefeldt's, the remainder to East London, on the 9th December, and from the 15th of that month the latter number, with some trifling additions, have been engaged in the erection of quarters for officers connected with the harbour works and barracks for convicts.

The total amount expended for the maintenance and discipline of 1,018 convicts during the year was 22,640*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, being at the rate of 22*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* per man, and 1*s.* 2*d.* per man below the estimated cost. The saving would have been much greater had it not been for the unexpected expenditure (414*l.* 13*s.*) incurred under the head of "freight and transport" consequent upon the removal of the party of convicts from George to Port Elizabeth, a charge unprovided for in the annual estimates. A detailed statement will be found in annexure No. 9.

The above-mentioned sum is that actually issued from the Colonial Treasury; 186*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* has, however, been received under the head of miscellaneous receipts, including portion of the sum realized by sale of the abandoned station at the Vlugt, bonus on marine assurance of convict stores, &c. If credit were taken for this amount in the general statement of expenditure, the reduction in the cost of each convict would be 3*s.* 8*d.*

The average number of convicts employed upon road and harbour works (as shown in annexure No. 2) was 930, and the number of days upon which these men worked, 280. The aggregate amount of labour on the works by the number of men labouring for one day requisite to effect the same results was equal to 256,680 men, at 2*s.* 6*d.* per man per diem. The value of the work performed was 32,085*l.*, against an expenditure of 22,640*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*

R. SOUTHEY, Colonial Secretary.

[S. J.]

* Annexures not printed.

NATAL.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor MUSGRAVE to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Government House, Natal, October 19, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship copy in duplicate of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1871.

2. As your Lordship is aware, I had no acquaintance with the affairs of this Colony during the period to which these returns relate, and after so short a residence here as mine I could add little of value to the Report made recently by Mr. Keate in his Despatch No. 41, of 8th March last, when transmitting the Blue Book for 1870. But it s pleasing to record that there is evidence of continued prosperity and progress. The imports, the exports, and the revenue of 1871 have all exceeded those of any of the preceding six years, and so far as the transactions of the present year have extended they show still further growth. A small but apparently steady stream of immigration from Great Britain, of a class possessing some means to assist them in their first efforts on settlement, is flowing into the Colony. Advantages to such settlers will be increased if the project now on foot for the construction of railways can be successfully accomplished, for the chief want of the Colony doubtless is facility of transport, both for obtaining imported supplies and distributing the produce of the country to the best markets. With such facility in this respect as is hoped for, and with a sufficient supply of labour at the command of producers, it would be difficult to place a limit to the capability of production possessed by this fertile land.

3. The discovery of the Diamond-fields has no doubt given an impetus in South Africa akin to that which has been experienced in Australia, California, and British Columbia from the gold mines there, in attracting population, increasing trade, and developing in diverse ways the natural wealth of a country rich in many resources. A fair share of the beneficial influence has been felt in this Colony, and I think that the future prospects of Natal may be viewed with cheerful confidence.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, (Signed) A. MUSGRAVE.
&c. &c. &c.

[J. C. B.]

GIBRALTAR.

GIBRALTAR.

No. 12.

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from General Sir W. F. WILLIAMS, Bart., G.C.B., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Gibraltar, May 3, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Gibraltar for the year 1871, the accuracy of which has been certified by the Colonial Secretary, and to submit the following observations on its contents:—

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue from all sources for 1871 was 38,155*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.*, showing an increase compared with that of the preceding year of 1,758*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* There has been an increase of 1,515*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* in the revenue received in the Port department, which has arisen from more vessels having touched at this port, and the number of vessels of greater tonnage being higher; also from the consequent issue of more bills of health and an increase in the collections made by the Health Guards, through extra quarantine. Further, greater improvement, rather than any diminution, in the annual receipts, may be reasonably entertained.

3. The total expenditure for the year amounted to 42,015*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, exceeding that of 1870 by 94*l.* 14*s.* In the expenditure, however, is included the sum of 5,000*l.* advanced to the treasury chest, and which has since been repaid into the Colonial treasury.

4. The surplus cash balance of the Colony on the 31st December, 1871, was 24,417*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*

Duties, Taxes, and Fees.

5. No alteration was made during the past year in the rates receivable under the above heads.

Legislation.

6. Only one Ordinance was enacted during the year, viz. "An "Ordinance to confer on certain persons exclusive privileges in respect "of certain patented inventions for the improvement of electric tele-"graphs."

Education.

7. Education is carefully superintended by the different ministers and committees. The number of schools partly supported by Government on the 31st December, 1871, was 9. The number of children educated in them was 2,246. Of these, 1,502 in schools of the

Church of Rome; 157 in schools of the Church of England; 266 in the Wesleyan schools; 341 in secular schools.

The expense on account of education, as compared with 1870, shows an increase of 146*l.* 4*s.* The total amount expended during 1871 being 369*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*

Population.

8. A census of the population was taken by the Registrar of Births on the 2nd April, 1871, and the table of population is filled up on this occasion from the last Census Return.

9. The last preceding Census was taken in 1868, when the enumeration of the inhabitants, exclusive of the military population, showed an aggregate of 18,063 persons, of whom 2,281 were aliens, on temporary permits. The military population amounted to 6,368 persons.

10. The Census of 1871 gives 8,969 males, and 9,726 females, or the total of 18,695 persons, including 2,241 aliens, on temporary permits. The military population amounted to 6,521, making the total gross population in 1871, 25,216 souls.

11. The number of births registered in the Colony was 613, being 5 less than in the previous year.

12. The number of marriages celebrated has been smaller than in the preceding year, being 158 against 170 in 1870.

13. The deaths in 1871 were 538, being 35 in excess of the number registered in the previous year.

14. The rate of mortality was as follows:—Civil population, numbering 18,695, 23·53 per mille; military population, numbering 6,521, 15·05 per mille.

Shipping.

15. The Shipping Return of the year 1871 is the heaviest that has ever been made for this Colony; and comparing it with that for the preceding year, it shows an increase in the grand totals of the arrivals of 540 vessels, 330,262 tons, and 12,173 men (crews) and a corresponding increase of 384 steamers:—

Years.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1870 - - -	4,195	1,485,229	73,178
1871 - - - -	4,735	1,815,491	85,351
Increase in 1871 -	540	330,262	12,173

General Remarks.

16. The sanitary state of the Colony has been very good. Commerce prosperous. The markets plentifully supplied from Morocco and Spain, and the meat, poultry, and other supplies provided, are wholesome and reasonable. The town presents an improving aspect, and the community at large is in a satisfactory condition.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. F. WILLIAMS,
General and Governor.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

[J. C. B.]

ST. HELENA.

ST. HELENA.

No. 13.

No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor PATEY to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, St. Helena, March 14, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for 1871, which has been delayed until the arrival, on the 8th instant, of the Crown Agents' accounts to 31st December, in order to complete the returns for the year.

2. The failure in the resources of the Island, arising chiefly from the changes in the course of trade from the East, has already been fully reported on to your Lordship on several occasions, and it will not therefore be necessary that I should again enter upon that subject here.

3. In order to meet the deficiency of revenue, retrenchments have been effected in the establishment during the past year, as well as on various occasions since my arrival, and other reductions are in contemplation, to be carried out as opportunities offer.

4. The revenue and expenditure of 1871 are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Revenue - - - - - -	15,557	19	9
Expenditure - - - - - -	18,438	12	1

I also add, for purposes of comparison, the revenue and expenditure of 1869 and 1870, and the estimated revenue and expenditure of 1871, viz.:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1869 - - - - -	20,779	24,505
1870 - - - - -	15,973	18,943
*Estimates, 1871 - - - -	16,295	19,892

5. During the year a Parliamentary Loan of 5,158*l.* was granted for payment of the following claims, which remained outstanding on my assumption of the Government in 1870, viz.:—

	£
Salary of the late Governor - - - - -	950
Mail subsidy - - - - - - - - -	1,900
Money Order Office - - - - - -	1,265
Savings Bank - - - - - - - -	1,043

Of the foregoing grant, only 950*l.*, for the salary of the late Governor, had been drawn up to the close of the present year.

* Considerable reductions have been effected in the Civil Establishments since the Estimates for 1871 were prepared, and those for 1872 will show a more satisfactory financial condition.

6. A further debt, caused by the failure of revenue, has been incurred during the last two years, amounting to nearly 7,000*l.*, the larger proportion of which is due to the Crown Agents for payments made by them on account of this Government, their accounts to the 31st December last showing a balance in their favour of 5,141*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*

7. In the month of July a sudden and heavy flood of rain (probably from the breaking of a water-spout) caused momentary alarm and some distress, resulting in the loss of two lives and damage to many of the properties in Jamestown, as well as to the public roads and streets and the main culvert through Jamestown.

The poorer inhabitants, who were driven out of their dwellings, were promptly housed for a few days in the vacant barracks in Jamestown, until their own dwellings could be again made habitable. In addition to the relief raised on the spot, a sum of over 200*l.* was collected in London in aid of the sufferers.

8. With this exception the seasons have been favourable and healthy, the deaths during the year being only 107, out of a total population of 6,444.

9. The return of the population, as obtained by the decennial census of 1871, shows a decrease of 619 as compared with 1861, caused by reduction in the number of garrison and shipping. The births in the last ten years had exceeded the deaths by 1,045. This excess has been reduced by emigration, averaging about 70 persons annually, leaving a net increase in the native population of between 300 and 400.

10. The returns in the Blue Book under other heads remain nearly the same as last year, and call for no special remark.

11. In consequence of the distressed condition of the Island, a memorial was forwarded to your Lordship from the inhabitants on 27th March last, upon which, by your Lordship's directions, a Commission of five gentlemen was appointed to inquire into the condition of the Island, and the causes which led to its financial depression and general distress. This Commission sat from the 18th July to 23rd October, and their proceedings were forwarded to your Lordship in my Despatch, No. 69, dated 26th October, 1871.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) CHARLES G. PATEY, Rear-Admiral,
Governor.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

[J. C. B.]

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 14.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor D'ARCY, to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Stanley,
MY LORD, Falkland Islands, February 27, 1872.

IN obedience to your Lordship's Circular of 7th March, 1871, I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book for 1871, within the first quarter of this year.

2. *Imports and Exports*

Show an increase in value of 3,119*l.* in the imports, and an increase of 4,802*l.* in the exports.

3. *Legislation.*

The following Ordinances were passed in 1871:—

1st. Bankruptcy Ordinance.

2nd. An Ordinance to declare the law and practice in cases of escheat.

3rd. Wreck and salvage Ordinance.

4th. Ordinance for regulating the disposal of Crown Lands in the Falkland Islands.

5th. Pilot Ordinance.

Having dwelt in various Despatches on the necessity of the above measures being incorporated in the Statute Book of the Settlement, it is only for me now to report that they appear fully to answer the purposes intended by the framers.

4. *Shipping.*

The tonnage of vessels which entered the port in 1871 amounts to 29,959 tons, and the following vessels arrived in distress:—

	Tons.
'Adriana'	1,305
'Republic'	1,361
'Anna Parode'	1,008
'Una'	793
'Una' (second occasion)	793
'Flower of the Forest'	973
'Princess'	464
'Enterprize'	377
'Admiral Fitzroy	377
'Eagle'	307
'Galatea'	353
'Emmanuel'	270
'Stagshaw'	244
'Gustav'	216
'Victor'	215

And moreover the crews of two shipwrecked vessels, 56 souls in all, the 'Sam Caerns,' and 'Knight Errant,' were taken off Tierra del Fuego by the Colonial schooner 'Louisa,' Charles Hansen, Master, whose humane conduct on this and other occasions deserves to be commemorated in this Report. In the depth of winter, on June 18th, a hurricane swept round the Horn, dismasting a fleet of merchant vessels, who were compelled to seek the shelter of this leeward port, to which, by an approximate calculation, may be conceded the merit of having, during the year, saved the lives of 280 mariners of all nations.

5. *Statistics.*

Of a population of 812 residents, 17 only died during 1871, and when it is remembered that 5 (five) of this small number met their death from accidents, the return speaks favourably for the climate, and on the reverse side the Registrar shows by his books 12 marriages and 33 births, 14 male, 19 female.

6. *Pastoral Prospects*

Are decidedly more favourable than they were two years ago, chiefly owing to to the activity and zeal of the Falkland Islands Company's Manager, Mr. Cobb; the Company are now proprietors of between 40,000 and 50,000 sheep; the additional care and supervision bestowed has been well repaid, and the Company is in a position to offer a market to the smaller proprietors on the West Falkland, who are thus saved the expense of importing their stock from the River Plate. It now begins to dawn upon the settlers that the Islands are better adapted for sheep than for cattle; this discovery was made by Mr. Waldron of the West Falkland, and is now universally recognized; henceforth I imagine but few cattle will be raiscd, merely sufficient to feed the people on the farms, the ground being reserved for sheep walks. The short grasses of the Islands are very succulent (I do not allude to the tussac grass, only now to be found on the small islands that fringe the seaboard), and peculiarly adapted for sheep, so much so, that even under the primitive farming of these Islands the animal attains the same good condition it does in England with all the aid of turnips, &c. Having recently made a tour of the East and West Falklands, I am in a position to report that the settlers are contented and hopeful of their prospects, and the land in both Islands is now all taken up.

7. *Government School.*

The Inspectors' half-yearly Report, I have the honour to append.

To meet the requirements of the Inspectors a detached infant school has been erected in the school play-ground.

8. *Public Works*

Have but slowly progressed, owing chiefly to the weather being so unfavourable for work. The carpenters of the Royal Marines have

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

worked almost continuously on the repairs necessary to be made on board the Colonial Government schooner 'Foam,' a vessel now 30 years old. Taking into consideration that the people have lately, by their indirect contributions, under the Spirit Duties Ordinance, added one-fifth to the revenue, it was thought opportune gradually to make improvements beneficial to the community. Among the first of these has been the lighting of the town. The bricklayers of the Royal Marines have repaired the reservoir, and are now employed on the gaol, which I hope to see roofed before the winter sets in. On the completion of the gaol, I have in contemplation the extension of the Government jetty, in order to enable vessels of 500 and 600 tons to discharge their cargoes alongside. A quarry of stone is in the immediate vicinity, and the only expense will be for labour, on account of which provision is made yearly in the estimates, and the wharfage dues will be a permanent, though not considerable, source of revenue.

9. *Vaccination.*

Small-pox being endemic in Montevideo and Buenos Ayres, this Government has established a system of quarantine, and the following rule in the Port Regulations is rigorously carried out:—

"No person is to be allowed to land from any vessel having on board any infectious or contagious disease, without permission from the Governor signified through the pilot; and every master must answer such inquires, as to the sanitary condition of his vessel, as may be made by the pilot, and no boat is to be allowed to board any vessel until after the pilot, nor even then in the event of there being any infectious disease on board the vessel."

Meanwhile the medical men of the Settlement have been zealously giving effect to the local vaccination law. Some little hesitation was evinced by the people as to the utility of the measure, until the following convincing tabular statement was placed on the Gazette board.

Year.	Deaths in London from Small-pox before Vaccination was by law established.	Year.	Deaths in London from Small-pox after Vaccination.
1765	7·106	1865	646
1766	15·268	1866	1·388
1767	14·542	1867	1·322
1768	6·666	1868	606
1769	3·103	1869	273

In accordance with the instructions of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, I enclose the return relating to vaccination required to be forwarded at the same time with the Blue Book.

10. *Trade.*

Owing to the late war in France the demand for oils has failed, a disappointment to the inhabitants of these Islands, many of whom earned a livelihood by boiling down the penguins for oil. I am

hopeful that, peace having been concluded, this trade will return, and in the meantime the birds will have multiplied through being left unmolested. More serious, however, has been the collapse of the sealing trade, the supply of those animals having been exhausted in these seas, although it is supposed they are still abundant in the mere southerly waters around the islands of Georgia and the South Shetlands, but the severity of the cold prevents the fishery of these seas from being attempted. Much to their credit, however, such is the energy of the people that they have already attempted new openings for trade. Cattle have been shipped to Sandy Point, where there is now a market, the Chilian Government having imported convicts for the public works, together with 600 soldiers. At first this energy was rewarded, but latterly the passages having been unusually protracted by westerly gales, the cattle died, and the undertaking has been found not to answer. An application has been received from a merchant at Buenos Ayres to rent the Beauchene and Georgia Islands for the purpose of working the large deposits known to be there of guano, of which a considerable quantity abounds at the various penguin rookeries situated on all the islands in the vicinity of the Falklands, but it is inferior in quality to that which is found in the Chincha Islands, in the Pacific Ocean, inasmuch as it does not contain ammonia. In the absence of ammonia the value of guano is determined by the amount of phosphate of lime that it contains, and the value of the penguin guano can easily be determined by analysis. I am satisfied that in a few years a trade will spring up in this article, and that to allow the penguins to be killed for oil is killing the goose with the golden egg. Yet as my predecessors passed a law sanctioning their slaughter, I hesitate before I attempt to repeal it. Is it too sanguine to hope that as the supply of guano becomes limited in the Pacific, our second rate guano may be in demand to help to compose a manure which is now selling at 15*l.* the ton in the port of London?

Mr. Waldron, of the West Falklands, is also hopeful that the amount of fine fish of the mullet kind, which are to be found in summer in the small harbours might be turned to account by boiling them down for oil. Unfortunately there is not sufficient continuous heat in the sun's rays to dry salt fish for the markets in the River Plate, otherwise this might be a thriving trade.

The line of railway has been surveyed across the continent of South America from Buenos Ayres to Valparaiso, and it is in course of construction; this work when completed will cause a demand for fuel in a country where coal cannot be bought for less than 3*l.* a ton.

Might not another trade be opened with advantage, that of compressing the peat, so plentiful in these Islands, into patent fuel? As a combustible this material has answered at Oranienbaum in Russia, where the locomotive engines are worked with compressed peat, and different processes have been experimented of converting it into coke.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

11. *Keppel Island,*

As a dependency of this Government, is worthy of notice, and may be allowed a space in this Report. The settlement has been well chosen, facing due north; it receives every ray the sun has to spare in this Antarctic region; and the well-kept kitchen-gardens which meet the eye everywhere show industry of no common order. The Society are much indebted to the zeal and activity of their bailiff, Mr. Bartlett, who is a most valuable servant. Sickness amongst the English settlers of Keppel is quite unknown. This little Arcadian settlement will probably be the means of eventually civilizing the remaining few barbarous inhabitants of Tierra del Fuego. Three or four families of Fish Indians, converts to Christianity, are located at Keppel. They are a quiet intelligent race, much attached to their English catechists. Several of the natives have, however, died of consumptien at Keppel, and it is supposed that this delicacy of constitution is developed owing to the warm clothing which they are for the sake of decency required to adopt, after having been for 15 or 20 years roaming about in their canoes in a very cold climate without clothing of any kind. With a wise discretion the Mission do not suffer these tyros in civilization to visit Stanley, where the public-houses would soon demoralize them. After a season of probation at Keppel Island, where they are taught agriculture, they are taken back to Ooshooia, the mission station on the south shore of Tierra del Fuego, and returned to their villages, where they become virtually missionaries themselves, and others again take their place at Keppel, to go through the same instruction.

It cannot be questioned that if these good missionaries are to succeed in making a man a Christian out of a mere savage and wild man, they must first make him a rational being, and it must contribute a great deal to forward his conversion if he can by degrees be brought into a settled mode of life, and to this most desirable end the mission is practically working by the mode so wisely adopted.

The natives, Fish and Foot Indians combined, are supposed only to be about 800 in number in all Tierra del Fuego; they have a language of their own, and are perfectly distinct from the Patagonians of the continent of South America.

The Rev. Mr. Bridges, the Superintendent now resident at Ooshooia, is laboriously engaged in writing a grammar and dictionary of the Fuegian language, which may thus be rescued from oblivion. It is much to be feared that the inhabitants are gradually dying off from cold, exposure, and want of cooked food.

I have, &c.,

The Earl Kimberley, K.G., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. D'ARCY,
Governor.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

COPY of ANNUAL REPORT of the INSPECTORS of GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS to His Excellency GOVERNOR D'ARCY.

SIR, Stanley, Falkland Islands, December 23, 1871.

We have the honour to submit to your Excellency our Report on the Government Schools for the year 1871.

2. There are 99 children on the school roll, as per margin. Boys, 52; Girls, 47.

3. The attendance has, during the last six months, been more regular, although from the subjoined examples it will be seen that there is room for much improvement.

In the first class boys of 230 schools, the highest attendance was 222, lowest 140; second class boys, highest 177, lowest 24; third class boys, highest 225, lowest 50; fourth class boys, highest 158, lowest 36; first class girls, highest 224, lowest 178; second class girls, highest 228, lowest 110; third class girls, highest 197, lowest 86. It is impossible that a child attending 60 to 80 schools in six months can learn much.

4. There are still a few children in the Settlement, rather a decreasing than an increasing number, who do not receive any education; but the rising generation in the camp are still without any prospect, as far as we are informed, of obtaining that instruction which is so necessary.

5. Your Excellency has been pleased to act on our Report of last year, and a system of drill has been lately established with some success. We would suggest that it should be extended as in England, in a modified form, to the school girls as well as boys.

6. The progress of the children, tested by an individual and searching examination, extending over the last six days, in which we were ably assisted by some of the ladies and gentleman of the Colony, is on the whole satisfactory. The girls have much improved in spelling, while their arithmetic and general knowledge leaves still much to be desired. Whenever the funds could be obtained the elder girls ought to be practised with a sewing-machine, as in some of the more practical schools in England.

7. The monitorial system has proved a comparative failure; the argument used by the working population of the Colony is, "we pay "for our children to be taught, we do not pay for them to teach the "others." On the other hand, the parents complain, and with some reason, that their younger children learn little or nothing, and that the monitors cannot teach. Some of the parents take a mercenary view, over-value their children's services, and others expect more for their school-pence than they could get in any part of the world. This may arise from the demand for labour, as well as from the fact that the Government have hitherto provided everything for the people, without requiring them in any way to supply their own social wants. The school till lately has been the sole exception, and the colonists have their money's worth for the amount of their contribution to the expense of the educational department.

8. Mr. Clarke cannot be expected to instruct 90 children in a morning, with the intermittent assistance of unwilling monitors.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Among the results of the individual examination carried on last week, the following were obtained: of 15 boys and 7 girls whose ages ranged from 4 to 8 years, and in one case 10 years old, 10 only could tell their letters, 8 of the 15 boys only could count, all the 7 girls could, 18 of the 22 children could not give the days of the week. Of the 54 children in the 4th class of boys and 3rd class of girls, nearly all should be in a separate building, under a cheerful active young woman, who could instruct the children in the simplest elements, and, by the help of black board, singing, and the various accessories of infant school teaching at home, remove a growing evil.

We have entered thus fully on these subjects, knowing that they are those which are so important, and so much considered by your Excellency,

And have, &c.,

(Signed) CHAS. BULL, M.A., Colonial Chaplain, } Inspectors
J. FISHER, R.N., Surgeon, } of Schools.

A RETURN showing the Number of CHILDREN vaccinated in the FALKLAND ISLANDS during the YEAR 1871.

Period.	One month to twelve months.	One year to six years.	Total.
January–June - -	4	5	9
July–December -	3	12	15
Total - - -	7	17	24

[J. C. B.]

HELIGOLAND.

No. 15.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor MAXSE to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Heligoland, April 15, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book for 1871.

2. Notwithstanding the closing of the public gambling tables, the absence of a bathing season on account of the war in 1870, and the necessary remittance of taxation in consequence, I am happy to be able to report to your Lordship that this little Colony is rapidly improving its finances, and that notwithstanding the above difficulties, the public debt has been steadily reduced.

The amount of the debt is now 2,261*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*, whilst in 1865–66 it amounted to 7,456*l.*

I have, &c.,
(Signed) FITZ MAXSE,
Lieut.-Colonel, &c.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

[J. C. B.]

LONDON:

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FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

PAPERS

RELATING TO

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

PART II.—1873.

(2ND DIVISION.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty
1873.

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WEST-AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS.

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor POPE HENNESSY to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Sierra Leone,
31st December, 1872.

MY LORD,

OWING to the recent addition of the Dutch Possessions on this coast to Her Majesty's West-African Settlements, and the fiscal changes that have been made this year, I have thought it may not be uninteresting, in forwarding the Blue Books for 1871, to make a general Report on the Settlements as a whole, showing, in the words of the Colonial Regulations, the past and present state of the Colony and its prospects, under the several heads specified in the Blue Books.

Taxes and Duties.

(See Legislation, *infra, para.* 52.)

Revenue.

Since Sir Charles Adderley's Parliamentary Committee on the West-African Settlements, which led to the formation of a Government-in-Chief and to other administrative reforms, the revenue of the whole Colony has considerably increased. The total sum collected in 1871 was 172,197*l.*, as against 116,218*l.* in 1866.

The ratio of increase has been steady and satisfactory. In 1867 the revenue rose to 128,320*l.*; in 1868 to 130,660*l.*; in 1869 to 149,884*l.*; in 1870 to 159,830*l.*; and last year's revenue exceeds that of 1870 by 12,367*l.*

In the year 1873, when the revenue from the late Dutch possessions will be taken into account, and when the new tariffs will be in full operation, I believe the total income of the Settlements will exceed 200,000*l.*

The rapid increase of revenue from 1866 to 1871 contrasts favourably with the corresponding period of ten years before. The following Table, however, does not include Lagos, as that Settlement did not come under the Colonial Office until 1865.

	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.
Total Revenue of Her Majesty's West-African Settlements - -	£ 65,893	£ 56,810	£ 53,633	£ 54,918	£ 55,836	£ 61,958

SIERRA LEONE.

The revenue of each separate Settlement from 1866 to 1871 was as follows:—

	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sierra Leone	62,263	64,871	59,272	69,617	67,135	80,486
Gold Coast	11,053	10,839	15,404	24,127	30,851	28,609
Gambia	19,079	22,415	22,088	15,518	18,969	17,490
Lagos	23,823	30,195	33,896	40,622	42,875	45,612
Total revenue of Her Majesty's West-African Settlements	116,218	128,320	130,660	149,884	159,830	172,197

The expenditure has generally been kept well within the revenue, as may be seen from the following figures:—

Expenditure.

	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sierra Leone	60,539	70,984	55,694	70,465	68,033	76,130
Gold Coast	11,589	10,993	11,651	18,836	35,609	29,094
Gambia	17,681	18,664	17,082	20,236	21,937	16,662
Lagos	23,602	30,195	33,711	39,431	42,379	45,611
Total	113,411	130,836	118,138	148,968	167,958	167,497

Imports and Exports.

The following Table is a summary of the trade returns in the four Blue Books for 1871. It shows, at a glance, the value of the commerce of the British Settlements:—

	Imports.	Exports.	Vessels Entered.	Vessels Cleared.	Tonnage Entered.	Tonnage Cleared.
	£	£				
Sierra Leone	305,849	467,755	411	409	110,646	110,919
Gold Coast	250,671	295,207	343	315	131,553	119,494
Gambia	102,064	153,100	229	211	51,853	47,997
Lagos	391,653	589,802	278	275	125,776	125,168
Totals	1,050,237	1,505,864	1,271	—	419,828	—

Recapitulation.

	£
Imports	1,050,237
Exports	1,505,864
Total commercial movement	£2,556,101

Thus, over twelve hundred vessels cleared and entered with cargoes exceeding two millions and a half in value.

These are the actual results of the year 1871. Since then two changes have been made, the effects of which are becoming already manifest, namely, the addition of the Dutch Possessions in Guinea to

the British Settlements, and the general revision of the tariffs, with a view of encouraging trade and shipping. Owing to these changes, I believe that the exports from Her Majesty's West-African Settlements will exceed 2,000,000*l.* in 1873, and that the imports will reach 1,500,000*l.*, which would give a total commercial movement of 3,500,000*l.*; a larger sum than is exhibited by three not unimportant possessions put together, viz. the Federal Colony of the Leeward Islands, Tasmania, and Western Australia.

Military Expenditure.

Sir Harry Ord pointed out to the Committee of 1865 that the military expenditure, which then amounted to a charge of 127,897*l.* on the Imperial exchequer, could be considerably reduced, when the Government-in-Chief of the four Settlements was concentrated at Sierra Leone, and local forces substituted for some of the West Indian detachments. This policy has been steadily pursued, and with such success that, though the trade with the United Kingdom has considerably increased, the military expenditure chargeable to the United Kingdom has fallen to one-fourth of what it was in 1865. In 1871 it amounted only to 29,331*l.* This sum is divided between Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast.

The other two Settlements—Lagos and the Gambia—provide for their own defence. In 1863 Governor Freeman purchased 400 stand of arms for a force he was raising from a widely-spread Mahomedan tribe, the Houssas. In July, 1864, he reported that he could maintain 100 armed Houssas at an annual cost of 1,269*l.* Before his death, which occurred soon after, he anticipated the substitution of his Houssas for Imperial troops, and this was accomplished under Sir Arthur Kennedy's instructions in 1869. An armed police force has also been substituted for the Imperial troops at the Gambia.

Under your Lordship's instructions, I tried the experiment in May last of moving 100 Houssas from Lagos to the Gold Coast. They are now doing garrison work at Elmina; and are found to be, for the sort of duty required in the Protectorate, more useful than the West Indian troops. * * * * * *

Public Works.

It cannot be said that the concentration of Government which followed the inquiry of 1865 has been signalized by any public works of importance. The only buildings of any strength and magnitude in the West-African Settlements are of old date, having been constructed either by the Portuguese or the Dutch. However, immediately before his departure, Sir Arthur Kennedy laid the foundation stone of the new wharf in Freetown Harbour, and I have this year sanctioned an outlay upon it of 13,000*l.* In the estimates for 1873 I have appropriated a further sum of 25,000*l.* for this work.

On the coast of Guinea, the Government Works Department obtained some five forts and castles by the transfer of the Dutch Settlements. One part of the extensive and well-preserved fortress of St. George D'Elmina has already been utilized as a Govern-

SIERRA LEONE.

ment bonded warehouse. Another part is occupied as a barrack for the Houssas. The Palaver Hall is used as a court of justice, and the wing of the castle overlooking the sea contains a good suite of rooms suitable for the Governor-in-Chief when he visits the Gold Coast.

Immediately after the transfer, I instructed the Colonial Surveyor to begin two public works, one being a road from Elmina to Cape Coast, a distance of eight miles, the other the extension of a sea-wall, which well facilitated the shipping of cargo at Elmina. The new road is now made, and when the bridge across the Sweet River is finished it will be available for general traffic.

At Lagos a good deal of money was spent for the last few years in cutting the Offin Canal; but, owing to causes not foreseen when the works were undertaken, it has turned out to be useless. The roads and streets are admirably laid out, though, on account of the sandy soil, they are much broken up in the rainy season. The merchants' houses, especially those belonging to the foreigners, are substantially built. There is not, however, a good Government building in the Settlement, except the barrack, now used as the hospital. The gaol looks like a collection of native huts surrounded by a mud wall. The public offices and the court-house are mere temporary makeshifts.

When the revenues of Lagos admit of it, a public work may perhaps be undertaken, which would be of immense benefit to the commerce of West Africa; that is, a breakwater, on the principle of that constructed at Natal, for rendering the bar deeper. Such a work, if successful, would make Lagos the Liverpool of the West Coast.

Slavery.

It can now be truly said that one of the great objects for which the British Settlements were maintained has been accomplished: the oceanic slave trade is entirely gone. But though the slave trade across the Atlantic is extinct, African slavery as a home trade exists; and it must be admitted that to slave labour we owe our flourishing commerce with Africa. The whole of the produce shipped from Lagos is the result of slave labour. The same must be said of the Gold Coast and of the Gambia. With the exception of a little free labour employed in curing hides in Freetown, and one or two other trifling pursuits, the labour of domestic slaves produces all the exports of Sierra Leone.

Of the produce, valued at 1,050,237*l.*, shipped from the British Settlements in Africa in 1871, not more than one thousand pounds' worth is the result of exclusively free labour. Of the 17,882 ounces of gold-dust sent to England, probably not one ounce was obtained by free labour.

The European produce is carried from the coast into the interior by slaves. In 1871 the value of the produce so conveyed into Africa by slave labour must have exceeded 1,250,000*l.*

It is not unlikely that for some time to come the growth of our commerce with Africa will strengthen domestic slavery instead of diminishing it; just as the material progress of Russia under Peter the

Great intensified the serfdom of eastern Europe in the beginning of the 18th century. In one of his Despatches to Lord Clarendon, No. 17, of 1866, Dr. Livingstone says:—

"But there is a sort of charm in the prospect of gradual amelioration of the state of slavery by the steady advance of trade and civilization; yet all experience proves the prospect to be delusive. It is in the patriarchal state alone that slavery is endurable. So long as that state continues, there is but little disparity between master and man. Each enjoys the general indolence; but, let society advance, artificial wants increase, and luxuries become necessaries, the distance between owner and slave becomes proportionably widened. In fact, just as the love of gain is developed in the master, the lot of the slaves becomes compulsory and for the sole profit of the master, the interests of owner and slave diverge, and this divergence increases with every advance in trade, civilization, and luxury."

In the British Settlements domestic slaves, of course, are free; but in the neighbouring protectorates they are to be found in every house. Thousands of domestic slaves are to be seen every day in Lagos coming and going on their owners' business. It very rarely happens that any of them sent to Lagos with produce elect to remain there against their masters' wishes. * * * * * *

The fact, however, that runaways often leave British territory and ask their masters to take them again into servitude, is some proof that there is a wide difference between domestic slavery and the oceanic slave trade.

Education.

In addition to the stopping of the oceanic slave trade, our West-African Settlements were established in their present form with the avowed object, not of territorial aggrandizement, but of training the natives so as to render them capable of self-government. The views put forward in 'The Times' on the 14th December, 1872, as to the hopelessness of forming a Colonial Empire with European officials in this climate are in accordance with my observations, and with the experience of the most intelligent persons I have met in my visits to the Settlements.

Every year that has elapsed since 1865 has served but still further to confirm the resolution of the Select Committee of the House of Commons in saying:—

"The object of our policy should be to encourage in the natives the exercise of those qualities which may render it possible for us more and more to transfer to them the administration of all the governments, with a view to our ultimate withdrawal from all, except probably Sierra Leone."

But, though time has only shown the increased necessity of this policy, very little has been done in the last seven years to establish that on which alone a safe foundation of African home government can be built, that is, a comprehensive system of public instruction.

Sir Arthur Kennedy, in his Despatch, No. 1, of the 11th of January, 1869, written at Sierra Leone, said:—

"Education, as elsewhere on the coast, has been, and is, most "inadequately provided for."

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In his official Report for 1870, Mr. Popplestone, the late Director of Public Instruction, thus summed up his description of the state of education in Sierra Leone:—

"As may be inferred from this description of the state of education, and from the want of duly capacitated persons to train, moral duties are not inculcated during the school lessons. Apart from this decided want of instruction in practical morality, there is, it may safely be asserted, in the habits of listlessness and inanimation conspicuous amongst the younger section of the scholars, an indirect incentive to the formation of a thoughtless, idle, and ignorant character."

Mr. Popplestone's statements to me in 1872, my own inspection of some of the schools, and the experience I gained by conducting a competitive examination for clerkships in Sierra Leone, in which I examined young men of various denominations and ranks of life, together with the constant opportunities which the Head of the Executive here possesses of estimating the intellectual training of the community, all convince me that no real progress has been made, and that the system still continues to be an incentive to the formation of a thoughtless, idle, and ignorant character.

Acting Administrator Salmon informed me that, however defective he had observed the system of public instruction at Sierra Leone to be, he found it still worse at Cape Coast; and the late Acting Administrator of Lagos gave me a similar account of that Settlement.

It was however by the chiefs at Lagos and at Cape Coast that my attention was first drawn to the cause of this widespread educational failure.

On my second visit to Lagos, King Docemo told me that his chiefs and principal people wished to get their children educated, but they were debarred from doing so. Some years ago he had asked the Administraor to aid him in getting his son taught English, and the boy was accordingly sent to school. But in a short time he had to withdraw the boy from the school. King Docemo is not a Christian; and it appears that in accordance with a custom of his religion it was his practice, on the anniversary of the death of some relative, to proceed with his family to the house where this relative had been interred, and there go through certain prayers or ceremonies. His son, who had been sent to the English school, was warned by his teachers that this was all very sinful, and that he should assist in rooting out the heathen customs of his father. But neither the boy nor King Docemo would agree to this; and as the teachers said their mission was to enlighten the natives in such matters especially, no agreement as to the education of the boy could be arrived at.

All the chiefs and captains of companies at Cape Coast came to me with similar stories. They said they would give anything for a good education. They grieved to see their children brought up within a few yards of the English forts without learning to read or write English, or even to speak it. But in every English school their religion and customs were specially discouraged.

They said that a few low-caste natives, tempted by the emoluments of Government clerkships and of cathechists, would continue

going to such schools, but they pointed to the flagrant hypocrisy and idleness that was thus created.

Not many days ago I had an interview in the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone with the kings and chiefs in treaty with this Settlement. Bey Mauro, King of North Bullom, being deputed to address me by the others, said that it had reached their ears that I had written to the Queen's Government suggesting a scheme of education where Mahomedans and others, not Christians, could be educated. That this news had spread far and wide, and caused intense satisfaction. They were all most anxious that their children should learn English; but what could they do? Of all the kings and chiefs then present not one could sign his name in English to the treaties they made with he Queen; though in their father's and grandfathers' time there were the same schools at Sierra Leone as now. But their fathers would not send them to change their religion, and they could not send their sons to the English schools for the same reason. Bey Inca, King of the Small Scarcies, said he had to send his son to Bisau, in the Portuguese Settlements, to learn Arabic and Portuguese; and from thence he was about sending him to Senegal to learn French and complete his Arabic.

The native kings who thus spoke to me were as intelligent persons as any Europeans I had seen on the coast. Bey Inca apologized for having to speak through an interpreter, explaining that it was no fault of his; and he added his regret that his son, whose book learning would be greater than his own, would be unable to read or write any European languages except Portuguese and French, though the district he would be called upon to govern was in such close proximity to Sierra Leone.

These statements account for the fact that whilst the British Settlements exercise a certain political and commercial influence some hundreds of miles in the interior of Western Africa, their educational influence in the interior is absolutely *nil.* And yet it is from the interior that the governing class must be drawn. The liberated Africans of Sierra Leone, though not bad people, are in character, intelligence, and bearing very inferior to the genuine specimens of the negro race beyond the Settlement.

It was only in the interior that I saw a population exhibiting any real love for learning. At Kambia, a fine town at the head of the navigable part of the Great Scarcies, I found native schools where negro boys and negro girls were taught to read and write Arabic by negro teachers. In the town of Billeh, not far from Kambia, one of those teachers showed me his private library, containing more works on philosophy, jurisprudence, and history than I fear would be found in all the private libraries of the schoolmasters in Sierra Leone put together.

In that district I received, for the first time in Africa, a work composed by a negro teacher, Essays by Sheik Omar Al Hadji, of Dingawari (in Futa Jalou), a town between Kambia and the Niger. In the same place I obtained a manuscript written in Arabic by a negro, containing his own observations of the various places of the sun and the stars at different times of the year.

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As an illustration of the fact that this love of learning is not altogether confined to the interior, I reported to your Lordship, in Despatch No. 159, of the 28th December, 1872, an interview I had at Sierra Leone with a negro born in the Settlement, but who, being a Mahomedan, had to go to Futa, about 250 miles off, for the greater part of his education.

Though a young man of slender means, he was in the habit of purchasing expensive books from Trübner & Co., of London. He showed me his copy of De Sacy's 'Les Séances de Harrii,' the Paris edition, in Arabic, with Professor Chenery's translation, printed in London; Dr. Pfander's 'Mizar ul Hagg,' with Rahmat Allah's reply, the 'Izhar el Hakk.' He also showed me Dr. Freytag's 'Libri Arabici seu Frutus Imperatorum'; Dr. Ferdinand Wüstenfield's 'Life of Mahommed,' and other costly books that he had ordered from Europe. He possessed many works printed at Boulac and at Tunis; as well as numerous manuscripts composed by his countrymen in the chief towns in the northern valley of the Niger.

Though he had a more cultivated mind than I had observed in any of the young men trained in the Government school or the missionary schools, he had no acquaintance with Europeans. He had received no aid or countenance from the educational system of Sierra Leone.

The total absence of anything like industrial education in the Settlements has often been deplored by my predecessors.

The indisposition of the Sierra Leone young men to take to agriculture or any sort of manufactures for earning their bread, has been noticed by Sir Arthur Kennedy. That this is not owing to any inherent fault in the negro race, is shown by a visit to the interior. The whole of the country surrounding Kambia is well tilled by a hard-working population, who may be seen leaving the town at daybreak every morning for the adjacent farms.

Manufactures.

In Kambia itself I saw, for the first time in Africa, some attempt at manufactures. From the cotton shrub that grows near every house the women pluck the raw material from which they spin a coarse strong thread. This is transferred to a native loom made of hard wood and of leather prepared by themselves.

In the verandahs of the native houses the country cloth, from which they make tobes and other articles of wearing apparel, may be seen in process of manufacture, within a few feet of the plant still laden with the opening seeds from which the material of the thread is plucked whenever it is required.

In the circular gate-houses leading to the courtyards of the better classes I have seen the blacksmiths making hinges, nails, and other common articles from native iron. The same sort of ore that is to be found at Sierra Leone, and of which I sent some specimens with my Despatch to your Lordship, No. 111, of the 2nd of September, 1872, is also to be found in the interior. But though it is neglected on the coast, it is smelted in rude furnaces at Kambia, and is the

material from which the blacksmiths make all the iron articles required in that district.

The negroes of the interior may also be seen tanning leather, colouring it with native dyes, and making sandals, shoes, and saddles.

In every village they are busy manufacturing oil for their own consumption and for the European markets. The value of the oil so manufactured and exported last year to Europe exceeded 400,000*l.* This manufacturing industry is altogether carried on by the negroes beyond our Settlements.

At Elmina there are a considerable number of natives who have been trained by the Dutch as masons, carpenters, and blacksmiths. The native houses are strongly built of stone. At Cape Coast, eight miles off, the native houses are built of mud, and there is very little attempt at industry to be seen.

The German missionaries at Akropong give technical instruction in their schools. They are zealous, and live in a healthy district, but, as yet, they have made no impression beyond a very limited area.

At Lagos, the liberated Africans, who have emigrated from Brazil, are disposed to be industrious. In this respect they are a great contrast to the liberated Africans of Sierra Leone. When I saw them they numbered about 6,000, and they are rapidly increasing.

Legislation.

Until the appointment of the late Mr. Alston as Queen's Advocate of Sierra Leone, and legal adviser of the Governor-in-Chief, but little was done since 1865 to reform the Statute Books of the Settlements. During his brief tenure of office, however, some valuable changes were made, especially by the following new Ordinances:—

The Naturalization Ordinance.

The Coroner's Ordinance.

The Lunacy Regulation Ordinance.

The Gaol Ordinance.

The Waterworks Ordinance.

The Harbour Works Ordinance.

The recent lesiglation, however, that has attracted the greatest attention, is that respecting taxation and Customs-revenue. The laws passed on these subjects are as follows:—

Road Tax Repeal Ordinance—Sierra Leone, No. 10 of 1872.

House and Land Tax Repeal Ordinance—Sierra Leone, No. 12 of 1872.

An Ordinance to amend the Duties of Customs—Sierra Leone, No. 13 of 1872.

Harbour Dues Ordinance and Abolition of Wharfage Dues—Sierra Leone, No. 14 of 1872.

Market Dues Repeal Ordinance—Sierra Leone, No. 16 of 1872.

Customs Revision Ordinance—Gold Coast, No. 3 of 1872.

Customs Revision Ordinance—Lagos, No. 3 of 1872.

Fishing Tax Abolition Ordinance—Lagos, No. 5 of 1872.

The general result of this legislation is already seen. The

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population of Sierra Leone, which for ten years past had been diminishing year by year, is now being recruited by families that had gone to the Bullom Shore and the neighbouring districts to avoid the penalties of the Road Tax and the House Tax. Your Lordship directed me to consider whether some modification might not be made in the House and Land Tax so as to render it less obnoxious to the poorer classes. Its total abolition, as well as that of the Road Tax, was however found to be necessary; and to make up for the loss of four or five thousand pounds of annual revenue, derived from these direct imposts, I suggested a new tariff, which your Lordship has sanctioned.

This new tariff abolished the general ad valorem duty, and repeals the long list of specific duties established at Sierra Leone twenty years ago. It makes the following articles free in future:—

Bread.
Bacon.
Beef.
Biscuits.
Butter.
Bricks.
Candles.
Clocks.
Cheese.
Fish.
Horses.
Flour.
Iron (raw).
Iron (manufactured).
Preserved meats.
Pitch and tar.
Soap.
Sugar.
Tea.
Timber.
Masts and spars.
Shingles.
Staves.
Shooks.
Lard.

Mr. Syble Boyle, the well-known purveyor of Sierra Leone, issued a revised price list of his goods when the new tariff passed, stating that in consequence of it he would be able to sell in future the various articles of food in which he deals at much lower prices. In looking through the Government House pass-book, I see that the reductions he thus made range from 12 to 20 per cent. ad valorem.

The total abolition of the wharfage dues, and the reduction of tonnage dues from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 6*d.* a ton, are parts of the tariff that have directly benefited the shipping interest; and the unusually large number of vessels now seen in the harbour may, perhaps, to some extent, be due to these changes.

On the other hand the increase of the duties on spirits (from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* a gallon), tobacco (from 1½*d.* to 4*d.* a lb.), and gunpowder (from 9*d.* to 2*s.* per barrel), has not apparently diminished the import or consumption of these articles. The consequence is that after meeting the large remissions of direct taxation, and providing for the reforms made in the other parts of the tariff, the additional increase obtained from the new duties on spirits, tobacco, and gunpowder has left a considerable surplus.

After deducting all liabilities the balance that has been found in the Treasury chest of Sierra Leone on the 31st of December, 1872, is 5,314*l.* 17*s.* 10¼*d.*, being larger than any balance hitherto obtained here on closing the transaction of the year.

The new Gold Coast tariff has raised the spirit duty from 6*d.*

to 1*s.* a gallon, and abolished all the ad valorem duties on food, clothing, building materials, hardware, cutlery, stationery, cottons, silks, &c. This tariff has also provided a large balance in the Treasury chest at the end of 1872, and has enabled the estimates of 1873 to leave a surplus of over 11,000*l.*

The Gold Coast revenue for 1872 was estimated at 24,561*l.* Since the transfer, and the new tariff, it is estimated for 1873 at 46,486*l.*

Owing to the interruption of trade that had taken place at Lagos before my arrival, I made no change in the tariff beyond a slight increase in the spirit and tobacco duties. When the general trade revives, the spirit duty, now only 6*d.* a gallon, may be doubled with safety. The difficulty of transit across the beach near Porto Novo will always prevent any serious attempt at smuggling. I found that the old Ordinance, which professed to raise a revenue by a general tax on fishing, was very obnoxious to the poorer classes. On the other hand the Treasurer reported that he found the cost and trouble of inflicting penalties counterbalanced the trifling sum obtained; and I therefore repealed it.

It will be seen that the new fiscal system in Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast has shifted the incidence of taxation from the Settlements to the consumers in the interior. Nearly all the revenue now collected in Sierra Leone is paid by tribes remote from the Settlement, who consume the spirits and tobacco imported into Freetown, and which are exchanged for native produce.

The increased price of spirits and tobacco from the new duty, is hardly felt by the great mass of the consumers, owing to the fact that the price increases beyond all proportion to the original cost of the articles as they are carried into the interior of the country.

On the whole the taxation along the coast is extremely light; and admits of being increased from time to time when important public works may be required.

For what has been already done, great credit is due to Mr. Shaw, the Collector of Customs at Sierra Leone, and Mr. Salmon, the Collector of Customs on the Gold Coast. The latter gentleman was also Acting Administrator during the greater part of 1871 and 1872, and the success that has attended the new Customs establishments on the Windward Coast is the result in no small degree of his personal supervision.

Gaols and Prisons.

Sir Arthur Kennedy did much to improve the discipline of the gaols. Owing to the deterrent influence of the classification he introduced, the use of penal labour and the penal diet, the number of prisoners in the Settlements of Sierra Leone, the Gambia, and the Gold Coast has been steadily diminishing of late years. In Lagos alone the number of prisoners and the amount of petty crime have been increasing year by year. This is explained by the neglect of the local Government to carry out the oft-repeated instructions of the Governor-in-Chief.

Though condemned in 1867, the Lagos gaol has remained a rude mud building, without any of the appliances or appearances of a

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prison. I found it overcrowded and filthy. I could see no attempt at classification or real prison discipline. New gaols at Cape Coast and Lagos are much required.

Population.

The total population of the West-African Settlements as returned in the Blue Books now enclosed amounts to 513,370.

Of this number, 328 are Europeans, divided as follows:—Sierra Leone, 107; Lagos, 94; Gold Coast, 70; and the Gambia, 57.

Ecclesiastical and Religious.

Of the total number of 513,370, less than 35,000 are returned as professing Christians by the various Missionary Societies; but of these very few are practical Christians. Though it has been the invariable practice to enrol as members of the Church of England all the liberated Africans and their children brought for many years past to Sierra Leone, the actual number of Church members here now is far less than the number of liberated Africans and their descendants.

The native Christians are almost exclusively confined to the coast towns. They comprise the following denominations:—Church of England, Wesleyans, Roman Catholics, Baptists' Old Connection, Lady Huntingdon's Connection, United Methodist Free Church, Baptist New Connection, German Evangelical, and Presbyterian.

The Christian population enjoy the services of two bishops of the Church of England, and about one hundred clergymen of different denominations. The Missionary Societies in Europe contribute most generously to the conversion of the natives in West Africa. The latest return I can find of adult baptisms in Sierra Leone, Bullom, Quia, and Mendi Missions, is that given in the Proceedings of the Church Missionary Society for 1869, p. x, where the total number of such baptisms in the year is returned at 16. The number of clergymen directly or indirectly connected with this Society in the districts in question, including the Lord Bishop of Sierra Leone, is 26.

The Mahomedan clergy, who are gradually approaching the coast from the interior, are more successful. In one year they make more converts than the clergy of all the Christian denominations in West Africa make in ten years.

The European missionaries, no matter how largely supported with funds from home, cannot in this climate compete with the Mahomedans. One or two are eminent for activity and zeal, but as a general rule they are feeble and ineffective.

In the Appendix to the Primary Charge (October, 1871) of Dr. Cheetham, the present Bishop of Sierra Leone, an abstract is given of an interesting paper by a native pastor, the Rev. James Johnson, on "Our Mahomedan and Heathen Population: the duty "of the Church in relation thereto." The author thus sums up the effect produced by the Christians of Sirera Leone upon their foreign brethren outside the boundary of the Settlement:—

"The result, after allowing for the same persons arriving more than once, gives about 40,240 arriving yearly, a number almost equal to the total population of the Colony; and, added to the

5,000 actually resident, gives 45,240, a number greater by about 9,000 than that of professing Christians.

"The foreigners represent different African nations, some intelligent, and enjoying a very good degree of mental culture, having a literature of their own in Central Africa, as well as portions of the works of Aristotle and Plato.

"What influence have we exerted over them or they over us?

"We have not influenced our foreign brethren, though for a period of 40 years we have been coming in contact with them. Central Africa might long since have been under Christian influence if we had been faithful. We have not laboured, and therefore have no fruit.

"But they have influenced us.

"Neither the Mahomedan Alufa (priest), or Babbalawo (priest), have been inactive. We see the result in backsliding Christians. It is said that three-fourths of the Mahomedans in the town were not always so; that it is the instrumentality of a small band of faithful Fulah Moslems that has made them such. Christian parents willingly give up their children for marriage; many baptized persons live in guilty intercourse with heathen and Mahomedans. Christians in their hour of need consult heathen oracles and Mahomedan priests."—Primary Charge of the Bishop of Sierra Leone, page 63. Printed 1872.

In the discussion that ensued as to this lamentable result of forty years' labour, Mr. Johnson suggested, amongst other practical remedies, that the missionaries should pursue "a more diligent and "systematic study of the Arabic and native languages." As to this suggestion, however, the late Director of Public Instruction, Mr. Popplestone, "doubted the advantage of teaching children Arabic, "and thought variety of creeds and want of concord between Chris-"tian ministers the stumbling-block."

The native schools beyond the Settlement, where I have seen the Mahomedans zealously teaching Arabic, are evidences of the wisdom of what Mr. Johnson recommends. There are other causes, however, for the failure, one of which—perhaps the main one—should be again pointed out to Her Majesty's Government. Sir Harry Ord, in his evidence before the Parliamentary Committee of 1865, dwelt upon it seven years ago. He was asked (Question 2043), "Take the "missionaries for example; is it possible that you can spread Chris-"tianity in Africa except through the blacks?" He answered, "I "think that the only way to spread Christianity in Africa is by the "agency of black ministers."

The following is Dr. Livingstone's evidence on the same subject:—

"Have you formed any opinion with regard to the degree in which Christian teaching has affected the African character?—Yes, I know a very great number of converts in the middle of the country, not on the West Coast, and I have had opportunities of knowing them intimately. I have travelled with them, and I think the progress they have made in knowledge is very satisfactory, and that their conduct is very good indeed.

"Which are the people you speak of?—I speak of the Bechuanas.

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"You do not know so much of the natives of those countries to which the inquiries of this Committee are directed?—I know the effect of the missionary teaching, the Roman Catholic teaching in places in Angola; the people there have retained the teaching that was communicated to them some 150 years ago, and now, wherever you find a village you find people who can both read and write, and they teach each other.

"Is that in the Portuguese territory? — Yes, in the Portuguese territory.

"Is there a large number of Roman Catholic native Christians in that territory?—Yes, there is a large number who profess to be Roman Catholics; they do not know much about points of doctrine. I do not suppose they know there is any difference between themselves and other Christians; but they show themselves to be Christians.

"Have the Roman Catholic missionaries had much effect on the natives?—They had the whole of the country at one time under their power, and they then built their missionary establishments, which are now kept very carefully by the natives. There are no missionaries now.

"Are there no Protestant missionaries there now?—None whatever. The Jesuits were expelled at the time of the Marquis ——, and from that time forth there have been no missionaries. I met a canon of the Church of Rome in Ambanka. He was a very respectable man, and I found out that he was a very good man, and that he bore a very high character among the people around him. He was perfectly black, yet he was a canon of the Church."

The statement I have quoted from the Appendix of the Bishop of Sierra Leone's Primary Charge shows that whilst the European clergy have failed to influence the Mahomedan and heathen population, the native priests of the Mahomedan religion are perverting Christians even in Freetown itself. The reverend gentleman who made that statement is corroborated by the most recent returns prepared in the Liberated African Department.

The liberated Africans on arriving at Sierra Leone have invariably been handed over to the clergy of the Church Missionary Society. They are ready-made converts, as it were, by the action of the Government, and their children are not only baptized, but placed under the special guardianship of the clergy. Even at the present moment the Governor signs warrants every month for paying money to the Bishop for the education of such children.

The present population of Sierra Leone is 38,936. In his Primary Charge (1871) the Bishop claims 14,528. This is, however, said to be excessive, and in the Church Missionary Proceedings for 1869 the total number of "native Christians" was only given at 1,741. But according to the returns of the Liberated African Department, now before me, dated 24th December, 1872, the liberated Africans and their descendants number 35,864 out of the 38,936 persons constituting the population of Sierra Leone. Many liberated Africans emigrated again. The total number registered up to this date is 95,261.

From these figures it is clear that the Mahomedan, or other agency, has actually changed the religion of the majority of the

Christians within the Settlement, who had been placed for years past by the State in the custody of European clergy. SIERRA LEONE.

The Mahomedans who are doing all this are pure negroes. They achieve success by native agency alone. To face them a similar agency is required.

The more I have seen of missionary operations here, the more I am convinced that Sir Harry Ord and Dr. Livingstone are right in their estimate of the native pastors. The contrast between the native pastors and their European brethren is very striking.

The native pastors mix with the people, speak their languages, and understand their habits and customs. But unfortunately they are all placed in an inferior position to the Europeans, both as respects emolument and authority. The white colonial chaplain gets 500*l.* a year; the black assistant chaplain, 150*l.* The white clergyman at Pademba Road gets 250*l.* a year; the black clergyman, a well-educated and accomplished gentleman, 82*l.* And yet everyone sees that the hard work is left to the native. During the recent sickly season, which was so fatal along the whole coast, the white colonial chaplain was absent for the benefit of his health, receiving pay all the time in England. Other European ecclesiastics were also precluded by the state of their health from remaining during the sickly season.

Again, in the streets of Freetown, where small carriages are drawn by human beings, the Mahomedan proselytizers can point to European missionaries dragged about by pairs of negro boys in lieu of horses, as the latter cannot now live in Sierra Leone. Some of the native pastors have remonstrated against this slave-like exhibition. But the European clergymen who keep those carriages have the excuse that they cannot walk abroad in such a climate as Sierra Leone, and that for the preservation of their health they are compelled to use the blacks in this way.

The cure for this is obvious. Native pastors only, as Sir Harry Ord says, can do the work. In my Despatch, No. 153, of the 11th of December, 1872, I laid before your Lordship a letter from one of the most intelligent clergymen of the Church of England in this Colony — a native pastor — in which he says, "The use of the "services of a native prelate and our own liturgy and canons is a "mere question of time."

Meanwhile, however, the fact remains that, beyond the Settlement, no educational or religious influence is exercised by us; and, even in the Settlement itself, the majority of the people who are made Christians by the act of the State do not continue Christians for two generations.

Public Health.

This has been a most unhealthy year for the European population along the whole coast. Out of a European population of 30 at the Gambia, the Colonial Surgeon reports that ten died on shore, and five more after being conveyed on board the steamer.

I sent the present Administrator, Mr. Callaghan, to Europe in the month of April, as the doctors said they could not get him free from fever, and that he could not outlive the rainy season. His predecessor, Colonel Anton, died of fever on the voyage from the

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Gambia to England. Mr. Callaghan's locum tenens, Mr. W. H. Simpson, died of fever when put on board the steamer for Sierra Leone.

As an illustration of the rapidity with which Coast fever sometimes produces its effect, I may mention that the Despatches that reached me from the Gambia on the 8th of October were in the handwriting of Mr. Capper, the Acting First Writer, and were signed by Mr. Simpson; but the captain of the steamer sent me a note reporting that they had both died after the mails had been made up.

During my stay on the Gold Coast, the Rev. Mr. Waite and his two children died. Out of the small group of Europeans at Cape Coast his loss is severely felt. He was the son-in-law and the ablest assistant of the eminent head of the Wesleyan body in West Africa, the Rev. Benjamin Tregaskis.

At Elmina, owing perhaps to the ample supply of good water, the people enjoy better health than at Cape Coast. In an interview with the chiefs of Cape Coast in May, 1872, I agreed to establish a Municipal Council for sanitary purposes.

One moiety of this council is to be composed of chiefs elected by themselves; and instead of imposing a sanitary rate, I propose allowing them to devote to sanitary objects from 1,000*l.* to 1,500*l.* a year out of the proceeds of the additional duty on spirits.

A recent Despatch from Lagos states that the fever is also of a bad type there. The Commodore informs me that H.M.S. 'Coquette,' having entered the lagoon for a few days, had to proceed quickly to sea, as 37 out of 57 of her crew were soon down with fever.

The sanitary requirements of Sierra Leone are so pressing that I have ventured to take the responsibility of adding a separate department to the establishment here, to be called the Department of Public Health.

Before leaving for Elmina, in March last, I told Dr. M'Coy that I would recommend your Lordship to appoint an Officer of Public Health, independent of the Colonial Surgeon, and with power to spend an adequate sum on sanitary improvements.

The promotion of Dr. M'Coy removed one difficulty in the way of such a scheme. In the estimates for 1872 the Colonial Surgeon appeared as Sanitary Inspector, with an addition to his salary for that duty of 120*l.* a year, with a clerk at a salary of 22*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, and one labourer at 18*l.* 6*s.* That is, 161*l.* a year was specially voted for sanitary purposes; a sum quite inadequate for dealing with the public health of a place like Freetown.

In the estimate for 1873, I have obtained the cordial consent of the Legislative Council to insert votes for sanitary purposes to the amount of 1,600*l.* a year.

Of this sum I have appropriated 350*l.* a year to a new officer, to be called the Inspector of Public Health, and I have given him the services of a clerk at 50*l.* a year.

It will be seen from my Despatch, No. 154, of the 11th instant, that I have been fortunate enough to secure, subject to your Lordship's sanction, the services of the late sanitary officer and surveyor of Dartmouth, Mr. Roberts, for this post; and that he has already commenced his important duties.

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Under the supervision of the inspector and of a Board, that I have provisionally appointed, a sum of 1,200*l.* a year will be laid out in future on the sanitary improvement of Freetown.

During my brief experience of Sierra Leone (that is since February of this year), 24 Europeans have died out of a population of 98. The medical officers assert that this is the highest death-rate in any part of Her Majesty's dominions. I find, however, that the extraordinary sickness and mortality is confined to Freetown. The mountain district, according to the Registrar-General's Returns, appears to be as healthy as any part of England, or indeed as Madeira, the climate of which it closely resembles.

I therefore venture to suggest, for your Lordship's consideration, whether the seat of Government might not properly be removed to the mountain villages of Leicester or Regent, which are only three or four miles from Freetown; or at least whether a vote might not be sanctioned for building a few substantial bungalows for Government officials in the healthy districts lying above the vapours that rise from the Freetown river, and above the range of the more active malarial influences.

Though no expense will be spared to keep the town clean, I fear the Government must not be too sanguine as to the result. With the exception of the Mahomedans, the habits of the people, and of some of the European residents—as the medical officers point out in the Reports I had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship in Despatch No. 136, of the 20th November, 1872—are very bad. One of the main duties I have urged upon the Sanitary Inspector and his staff is that of teaching the inhabitants the dry-earth system; but it will take considerable time before it can be expected to be generally adopted.

There is another reason why we must not expect too much from Government action in this matter. Your Lordship and other Secretaries of State have frequently written on this subject, and my predecessors have tried many experiments to improve the health of Freetown. As a result of many years' observations, it is alleged that sickness sometimes breaks out in the cleanest parts of the town, whilst apparently dirty localities escape.

For my own part, having narrowly watched the phenomena affecting public health here, I venture to express the opinion that owing to its situation Freetown is radically unhealthy. It is near the mouth of a broad river laden with vegetable decomposition, which is partially driven back to the town twice every day by the tide; and at its rear it is hemmed in by a range of hills, which tend to keep the products of evaporation suspended over the streets. During my morning walks up Leicester Hill I frequently observe the river vapours lying motionless over the houses of Freetown.

The general conclusion at which I have arrived respecting the state of the public health in these Settlements is that they are unsuited for European residents.

I venture to repeat what I said in my Despatch of the 11th of October, 1872:—

"Wherever it can possibly be done, I would strongly recommend dispensing with the service of Europeans on this coast."

SIERRA LEONE.

Fortunately this can be done, and to a much greater extent than is generally imagined. It is no disparagement to the other members of my Legislative Council to mention the fact that the two ablest members of that body are both pure negroes. The best scholar on the Coast—a man who knows Hebrew, Greek, Latin, French, German, Italian, and Arabic, and is well read in the literature of these languages—is Mr. Blyden, a pure negro. The most intelligent clergy of the Church of England in the various Settlements are the native pastors. Among the most trustworthy clerks in the public service are the native officials.

However, to give the natives a fair chance, it is, as I have pointed out in the remarks on education, essential that something should be done to alter the present system of public instruction.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. POPE HENNESSY.
Administrator-in-Chief.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

GOLD COAST.

GOLD COAST.

No. 2.

No. 2.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Administrator SALMON to Governor POPE HENNESSY, C.M.G.

Government House, Cape Coast,
SIR, September 9, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency my report on the Blue Book for the year 1871. The delay in completing the returns was due to various causes, one of them my necessary absence at Elmina and the Western Districts; another, the necessity of re-writing the proof copies on account of the numerous errors committed in the office.

2. Every item under revenue and expenditure has been fully entered into, in order that your Excellency may clearly see not only the financial condition of the Settlement for the year reported on, but the system of accounts and the method of voting and recording estimates, which, taken together, seem to require revision, in order that the financial position of the Settlement and its real revenue and expenditure may at any moment be ascertained.

I have, &c.,
His Excellency (Signed) C. S. SALMON,
Governor Pope Hennessy, C.M.G., Acting Administrator.
&c. &c. &c.
Sierra Leone.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1871.

There has been no alteration under the head *Taxes, Duties,* &c., in the year, except in the amount charged for permits to land merchandise. The charge of one shilling was found to press heavily on

importers of packages of small value, and it was reduced to threepence for amounts of five pounds sterling and under, sixpence from five to ten pounds, and one shilling for amounts over ten pounds. The Ordinance (No. VI., of 1867) establishing the forms to be used, authorizes no charge. Merchants are allowed to supply themselves with all forms except permits.

The revenue for 1871 was, on the whole, within 61*l.* of the total estimate. The increase in Customs duties, although 437*l.* above the estimate, was within the amount expected to be received, and, only for the spread of small-pox on the Leeward coast, which caused a stagnation of the produce trade during the period the disease was prevalent, it would have been 8 to 10 per cent. more than the estimate.

The *Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court* were in excess of the estimate by 125*l.*, but were less by 219*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* than the amounts received in 1870; the fines levied at Winnebah for the riot that occurred there in 1870, and other similar fines of less amount, accounts for most of the large increase under this head of Revenue for that year. The ordinary business of the Courts, especially that of the Judicial Assessor's Court, was in 1870 and in 1871 much in excess of previous years, owing principally to the more extended area of the influence of this great native Court of Appeal.

An increase or decrease under *Special Receipts* does not to any appreciable extent affect the actual revenue of the Settlement, as the item is made up of the transfer of coin and specie from Accra, of surcharges, refunds, repayments, &c.

The *Reimbursements in aid of Revenue* has practically ceased to be an item under head of "Revenue" since the Imperial Government has discontinued the payment of the 700*l.* a year rent for the castle at Cape Coast. The 2*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* under this head of Revenue for the past year was the amount of payments made for the subsistence of military prisoners, confined by the request of the officer commanding the troops, in Cape Coast prison.

The falling off in *Conveyance of Mails*, 29*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.* under the estimate, and 48*l.* 2*s.* 0½*d.* under the amount credited to the revenue in 1870, is due to the fact that the Imperial Post Office has debited this Government with all intermediate postage, a proportion of which was formerly credited here to this post-office.

The amount received for *Licences* is less by 412*l.* than the estimate, and 172*l.* 9*s.* less than the amount received in 1870. The falling-off I ascribe to natural causes, resulting from over-trading in 1870.

Hospital Receipts show an increase of 27*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* over the previous year, and 25*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* over the estimate. The increase is due to European sailors having been more frequently sent from on board ship for treatment.

In *Fixed Salaries* the amount expended appears to be 574*l.* 9*s.* ess than the general estimate, but in this account the items paid by the Agents General in London (to the Administrator, 283*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; to the Colonial Chaplain, 152*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*; and to the officers and men of S.S. 'Nelly,' 212*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*), amounting to 648*l.* 8*s.*, are not included; there was therefore 73*l.* 19*s.* actually over-expended under this head of service.

The amount estimated for shows an increase over the estimate for

£3,665	10	3¾	Accra Receipts.
467	0	5	Paid in by General Post Office.
50	19	3½	Actual Receipts.
£4,183	9	11¾	

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1870 of 1,532*l.* and the amount expended an increase, compared with 1870, of 1,551*l.* 17*s.*, or recognizing the Agents General expenditure, 2,190*l.* 5*s.*

The causes of this increase are a raising in the salaries of the Administrator, 200*l.* a year; Collector of Customs, 100*l.* a year; and of some of the sub-Collectors, 20*l.* to 10*l.* each a year; of the third clerk, Cape Coast, 25*l.* a year; of first clerk, Accra, 20*l.* a year; of prison drivers 6*l.* a year each; an increase of salaries also to the printers and schoolmasters—Sierra Leone men having heen sent for to fill these posts; an increase to the organist of 8*l.* a year; the creation of two Custom officers at Accra, one at 50*l.* a year and the other at 40*l.* a year; the creation of a Clerk of Works at Accra, at 80*l.* a year; an increase in the number and pay of men; and the appointment of a native agent, at 80*l.* a year, in the Police Force. The grant to Mrs. Moseley of 200*l.* a year for the Female Institution was not paid, owing to the death of that lady.

In the supplementary estimate of 29th January, 1872, for the previous year, the sum granted was not to meet an over-expenditure on the total estimate voted (21,716*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*), but to legalize certain disbursements under particular heads due to increased pay, larger establishment, and other unforeseen and unprovided-for expenditure; among these figures the Colonial steamer 'Nelly,' entered in Blue Book, separately, for 868*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* The total of supplementary vote coming under *Fixed Salaries* are the items set forth in Schedule as Police, 436*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.*, and Medical Department, 2*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*; total, 439*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* The general estimate for the year covers the amount of this sum, but not the special distribution of it; on the other hand, some of the items estimated under fixed salaries were not disbursed.

The sum of 17*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* for *Pensions, Gratuities*, &c., is 63*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* under the estimate, but the sum of 86*l.* 16*s.* was paid by the Crown Agents, making total payments 105*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, or 24*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* over the estimate. 20*l.* of this excess was a gratuity paid to Captain Wyatt for bringing out the 'Nelly' S.S.

Revenue Services (exclusive of Establishment), estimated 1,100*l.*, expended 9*s.* 6*d.* This head of service has ceased to appear, the expenditure is distributed under other heads; it does not figure in 1872 estimates.

The amount expended under the head *Administration of Justice* was 48*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* over the estimate, and 31*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* more than 1870. The increase was due to the expense attending the sending of officers of justice to greater distances into the interior. The excess was provided for in the supplementary estimate of 25th January, 1872.

Under head *Contingencies*, the sum of 50*l.* was estimated, and 35*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* expended, leaving 14*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* in hand. In 1870 the sum of 63*l.* 15*s.* was expended; the difference is owing to the employment of less extra clerical labour.

Charitable Allowances show an expenditure of 28*l.* 7*s.* under the estimate, and 50*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* less than the previous year. There is rarely any call that would warrant the expenditure of money under this head, as there are no institutions or societies requiring aid.

The expenditure of 10*l.* under head of *Education* (exclusive of

Establishment) represents a subscription to the Wesleyan Society. 100*l.* was estimated.

Hospitals (exclusive of Establishment).—Under this head 100*l.* was estimated, and 105*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* entered as expended, being 79*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* more than in 1870. The Crown Agents, however, sent out drugs and surgical instruments to the amount of 840*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*, exclusive of freight and charges, which item does not figure in the Blue Book. The head of service, "Revenue Service (exclusive of Establishment"), 1,100*l.* estimated, was intended to meet this and other charges for stores, &c., from England, but which it would fail to do; however, the difference of 5*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* between the general estimate and the amount expended locally, was provided for in supplementary estimate.

For the *Police Force* (exclusive of Establishment), 168*l.* 18*s.* 2½*d.* is put down as expended; the Crown Agents' accounts, amounting for this head of service to 154*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, will make the total 323*l.* 11*s.* 8½*d.*, being 176*l.* 8*s.* 3½*d.* less than the 500*l.* estimated; the estimate was for clothing only, but the amount expended includes the amount paid per day as subsistence to men when on distant duty. The Government boatmen were also clothed from material obtained under this head of service. The payment of 3*d.* a day to Sierra Leone men for rent was charged this year under head *Rent*, and not, as in 1870, under head *Police*.

Rent was estimated at 1,308*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*; a balance of 21*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* remaining unexpended.

Transport.—Under this head of service 425*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* was expended beyond the amount of the general estimate, 1,435*l.*; the Crown Agents also have an account, not included in the amount, of 845*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*, making the total of over-expenditure 1,270*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.* under this head. The supplementary estimate of 25th January, 1872, provided 325*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* extra for this head of service, which was less by 100*l.* than the required amount to cover local outlay. The expenditure from Accra for this head of service was not completely arrived at, and 100*l.*, the amount of the difference between the local expenditure and the total estimates, was debited to this head of service.

Under *Miscellaneous Office Contingencies* the amount expended was 92*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*, being 100*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* less than the amount returned as expended in 1870, and 207*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* under the estimate. The Agents' General accounts, have, however, an item for stationery supplied, amounting to 217*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*, which, coming under this head of service, leaves an over-expended balance of 10*l.* 4*s.*

In *Works and Buildings* the amount unexpended in the estimate of 1,725*l.* is 263*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.*, or less by 584*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* than the expenditure of 1870. The less expenditure with reference to the estimate was due to the Accra Lighthouse being erected at less cost and the building of a Customs House shed at Cape Coast having been suspended.

For *Roads and Improvements* 1,500*l.* was estimated and 539*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* expended, leaving an under-expended balance of 960*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* Certain amounts varying from 10*l.* to 25*l.* were paid to interior native chiefs to encourage the cutting of paths through the bush to the trading ports, but the making of the principal projected roads at

GOLD COAST.

Cape Coast and Accra was suspended and current repairs only were proceeded with.

Miscellaneous Services, estimated at 500*l.* in general estimate and 538*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* in supplementary estimate of 25th January, 1872; total, 1,038*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* The expenses of Commissioners to the interior were much increased during the year, due to the necessity of sending to the native chiefs to get them to be present at Cape Coast to meet the Governor-in-Chief in May. The Agents' General accounts show an item of 494*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* under this head; made up of Commissions, 135*l* 3*s.*; refund to Sierra Leone Government, 349*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, and 10*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* Insurance of Bond and Postage, but 10*l.* of the latter amount was remitted to them.

In the general estimate the vote for *Aborigines* is 1,500*l.*, and it was under-expended by 72*l.* The total amount spent was 1,301*l.* 1*s.* less than the previous year. The expedition for the purpose of putting down piracy in the river Volta caused a considerable outlay, in 1870, in ammunition and other supplies to native chiefs, debited to this head of service.

In the *Gaol Department* the sum of 38*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* was expended over the general estimate of 500*l.* The extra expenditure was provided for in the supplementary votes of 25th January, 1872. The excess was due to a higher rate of pay to turnkey and drivers, which it was deemed advisable to grant.

The *Remittances to Crown Agents* were less than the previous year, being 4,033*l.* 19*s.* 8½*d.*, a difference of 5,931*l.* 1*s.* 9½*d.* This falling-off was not so much due to less gold dust being received as to the fact of an accumulation being in the chest from 1869, which was forwarded in 1870, with the takings of that year. The Crown Agents show in their accounts the remittances as 5,141*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*; the difference is due to a remittance from the Gold Coast, December, 1870, of 1,007*l.* 4*s.*, being included in their accounts for 1871. There is a profit on the gold remitted, which covers the balance of the difference.

The *Colonial S.S.* '*Nelly*' figures for 868*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*, covered by the supplementary estimate of January last. The Crown Agents' accounts for first cost and expenses attending her outward voyage comes to 5,564*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* (149*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* of this amount also figures under Transport—passage of master and crew); total, 6,432*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*

The 'Nelly' for this year, ending June, costs 1,576*l.* 2*s.* 8½*d.* (salaries, 491*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*; provisions, &c., 358*l.* 6*s.* 4½*d.*; McCoskry and Green's account, tubes, 79*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*; Agents' General account, April, 646*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*); making 8,009*l.* 2*s.* 1½*d.* The Admiralty account (unpaid) for provisions is 419*l.* 14*s.* The 'Nelly,' therefore, putting at least 500*l.* for expenses to and at Lagos, will cost this Government about 9,000*l.* to date.

Besides those specially referred to there are items in the Crown Agents' account for stores to the amount of 856*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* not appearing in this Blue Book; one is for Law Books 48*l.* 4*s.*, and Court Die 4*l.* 8*s.*; total, 52*l.* 12*s.* for the *Judicial Department* (exclusive of Establishment); one is for leg-irons, &c., 32*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*, and Osnaburgh 27*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*; total 59*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* for gaols (exclusive of establishment); one is for cutlery, Government House, 158*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.* (to be paid by

the Administrator), and Malacca canes 19*l.* 14*s.*; total, 178*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*; one is for printer's stores, 1*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*; one for Post Office, 7*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* (postage and revenue stamps); and one for the Engineer's Department (exclusive of Establishment) 556*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*; under this latter head, colza oil (116*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*) is for the lighthouses and public buildings, filters (9*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.*) for hospitals and Government offices, and a memorial stone (5*l.*) for Domprey, the Akim Chief.

Military Expenditure.

The expenditure under this head has been less than the previous year by 4,301*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, and 7,553*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.* less than 1869, on the part of the Imperial Government.

The amount paid by the local Government to the officers and men in lieu of exempting dutiable goods imported by them from duty was 158*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*

Public Works.

A market-place and lighthouse were erected at Accra. The roads in course of construction were proceeded with in a satisfactory manner. Although not paid away under this head of service, several amounts were given to chiefs of the interior to assist them in making roads through the produce districts to the trading ports; tools, such as cutlasses, axes, shovels, picks, were also given out from the Engineer's stores for the same purpose; one of the results has been the making of a fair road for foot traffic through the Assin country to the river Prah, on the Ashantee frontier.

Legislation.

The Ordinance, No. 1, of this year, "for promoting Public Health "in certain Towns within the Settlement of the Gold Coast" was returned to be amended, and is not in force.

The Ordinance, No. 2, of this year, "to establish Fees receivable "by Officers of Customs," &c., is in force. It was very essential to legalize and define the remuneration to be received by officers of Customs working overtime and on Sundays, a frequent occurrence with steamers.

The Proclamation of the 17th October has been withdrawn this year, that of the 1st November was never issued.

Civil Establishment.

In this year the post of Inspector of Customs at out-stations at 100*l.* a year, and hammock allowance 45*l.*, was abolished. The same officer was, however, made Commandant of Anamaboe, at 300*l.* a year, and 45*l.* hammock allowance, and, as required, performs the duties of supervision over the neighbouring ports attached to his first office.

Three clerks were appointed at the Customs establishment at Accra, at the respective salaries of 50*l.*, 50*l.*, and 40*l.*, and a Clerk of Works at 80*l.* A native Police agent was appointed at Cape Coast at a salary of 80*l.* a year: the office was abolished last May.

Pensions.

No alterations under this head; in the Blue Book the amounts paid by the Crown Agents are not included, amounting to 60*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*

Recapitulation of the Establishment.

Under this head the sum of 29,094*l.* 5*s.* 3¾*d.* is put down as sterling money paid by the Colony during the year. Of this sum, however, remittances to Crown Agents, amounting to 4,033*l.* 19*s.* 8½*d.*, and special payments (being transfer of Colonial money from Accra to Cape Coast, and payments recovered or finally debited under other head), amounting to 4,731*l.* 7*s.* 6½*d.*, will have to be deducted, leaving 20,328*l.* 18*s.* 0¾*d.*; on the other hand the disbursements of the Agents General in England, amounting to 9,320*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*, will have to be added, leaving the sum of 29,649*l.* 6*s.* 7¾*d.* as the amount actually paid away by the Settlement during the year 1871.

£	s.	d.
4,033	19	8½
4,731	7	6½
20,328	18	0¾
29,094	5	3¾

Population.

There is no means of arriving at any figures that can be quoted as being even remotely reliable, respecting the population of the Gold Coast Settlement. Since the poll-tax was taken (20 years ago) the Settlement has upon two or three occasions much altered in the matter of boundary alone, and, assuming that the collection of the tax gave reliable data, the lapse of 20 years should have made some difference. There is no means of knowing, even approximately, the number of towns and villages in the protectorate. Before the recent acquisition of Dutch territory the British Gold Coast, from the Sweet River to the Volta, measured about 150 miles, by an average of 60 miles inland. The recently acquired territory will give about 80 miles more of coast with an average quite 70 miles inland.

Ecclesiastical Return.

Under this head there are no alterations to report.

Education.

There is no alteration to report with regard to Government schools, except the fact that the number of scholars in the boys' school increased from 60 in 1870, to 101 in 1871.

In the Basle Mission establishments at Accra and the Eastern District the number of scholars of both sexes increased from 855 in 1870, to 879 in 1871, and the outlay incurred by the Mission was 3,040*l.* in 1870, and 3,205*l.* in 1871.

In the Wesleyan Mission schools on the Gold Coast the total number of scholars of both sexes increased from 971 in 1870, to 1,038 in 1871; the outlay by the Society was 1,039*l.* 16*s.* in 1870, and 1,094*l.* 18*s.* in 1871.

Exchanges, Moneys, Weights and Measures.

No alterations to report under this head.

Imports and Exports.

The imports in value are nearly the same as in 1870. In rum, however, the imports were one-sixth less than the previous year, and other articles mostly imported from the United States were similarly affected.

The exports for the year 1871 show a considerable fluctuation compared with the previous year; the exports to the United Kingdom showing a falling-off to the amount of 44,955*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*, and to the United States of 65,197*l.* 15*s.* 0½*d.*; to other ports of 21,937*l.* 4*s.* 9½*d.*

Of this decrease, the principal items are 9,976*l.* in cotton goods, 14,766*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* in rum, 14,682*l.* in palm kernels, and 67,398*l.* 9*s.* 1½*d.* in gold dust. There is, however, a variation in the value of some shipments to France, Holland, and Germany, in favour of 1870 to a considerable extent, compared with 1871. The quantity of palm oil shipped for the year exceeded that of 1870 by 134,816 gallons.

A portion of the falling-off in the exports of the Settlement can be well accounted for by the fact of small-pox of a virulent type having spread itself along the Coast for the latter half of the year 1871, and the people of the produce-giving countries were generally forbidden to communicate. The export of goods to Windward and Leeward was also much impeded, rum showing a falling-off in this respect of 14,766*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*, and cotton goods of 9,976*l.* The exportation of palm kernels ceased altogether during the latter part of the year. The natives throughout the whole Gold Coast, and I understand beyond it, had decided that the cracking the palm nut for the kernel, or otherwise dealing with it, was the cause of the small-pox, and the article ceased to be a commodity for barter.

In dealing with the returns of gold dust, extreme caution is necessary, for the reason that the usual data obtainable with respect to other articles called "Produce" is, in this instance, not forthcoming. The returns are not reliable, and give 64,377*l.* 14*s.* 10½*d.* as the total export of gold for the Settlement for the past year, which is undoubtedly under the mark, to the extent probably of 40 per cent. In all previous years, including 1870, the quantity exported of this article has, for various reasons, been more or less computed, and probably the computation was correct. To avoid misunderstandings, however, this year, the Blue Book figures are taken from the Export Forms only. I consider that the gold exported, though considerably less than last year, or the previous one, was to the value of 90,000*l.*, or 100,000*l.*, or say 30,000*l.* more than the return, of which amount the greater portion went to United Kingdom.

Gold also, as well as being an article for exportation as "Produce," is the principal circulating medium of the country, and the export of the article is liable to fluctuation on that account also.

In the return of the gold exports for the first half of the current year, the falling-off was so considerable that I made inquiries. I found one house at Cape Coast had omitted to record shipments to the extent of 630 ounces; the Accra returns gave only 221 ounces for the half-year, which was manifestly not a correct account. I have sent circular letters to the probable gold-shippers of the Settlement, asking them to send up their own statements for the past year and this.

There is a powerful reason, however, why the gold trade of the Coast, that is, so much of it as depends upon the working in the Settlement itself, should fall-off. The owners of labour are now

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sending their people to collect farm produce, instead of to wash for gold as of old, a more certain, if not a more paying system; indeed the very great increase in the palm-oil trade, manifesting itself more every year, proves that the labour of the country is thrown more into the working of its vegetable produce than its mineral wealth.

The effects of the small-pox were much felt in all the ports of the Settlement for the first half of this year also, but the produce exported will show an increase, nevertheless, over 1871 (exclusive, of course, of exports from the new Settlement).

Shipping.

Under this head, 273 British and 70 Foreign vessels, making a total of 343, entered the ports of the Settlement, and 254 British and 61 Foreign vessels, making a total of 315, cleared from the ports of Settlement in 1871. This is an excess over 1870 of 139 inward, and 126 outward vessels. The difference is due to an alteration in the returns, making a vessel show every time she called at a port, and also to the greater number of steamers that call at out ports.

Manufactures, Mines and Fisheries.

There is nothing to report under this head.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The total number of prisoners confined for felony or for thefts and other offences were 69 more during the year 1871 than the previous year for Cape Coast, and 111 less for Accra. The system pursued was the same; general decrease in number of prisoners, 42.

Criminal Statistics.

Under this head the returns for the years previous to 1871 can only partially be made out; for that year, however, they contrast favourably with many other countries of similar population and extent.

Hospitals.

Under this head I have to report that on account of the breaking out of small-pox, special hospitals with attendants were opened for the reception of sick; a large house to leeward of this town was hired at Cape Coast, and at Accra Christiansborg Castle was fitted up; temporary sheds for patients were erected at out-stations; of 257 cases of small-pox treated at Cape Coast hospital, 110 died. It is to be observed, however, that in most cases the patients were brought in by their friends at an advanced state of the disease.

General Remarks.

The acquisition of the Windward coast will have a considerable effect upon the trade of the Settlement generally; the old feuds which caused such disturbances, and which so completely cut off rich

provinces from access to the trading centres, will die out. The anticipation of the transfer had, in the latter part of the year 1871, a rather depressing action on trade, because people were in a state of expectancy, many not anticipating the very peaceful manner in which it was effected. It takes very little in this Settlement to disturb the native trade and the flow of produce.

It would be impossible to estimate what proportions the trade would assume were the interior tribes to have access to the coast, and the jealousies that bar intercourse between people speaking the same language broken down. Two caravan routes exist from Coomassie; one crosses the Volta River at Salagha, and goes thence to Yauri on the Niger, another goes into the interior by Coransah; I have heard that even with the limited trade now done many articles from Cape Coast are taken across the Volta by the Ashantee traders.

So little is known, however, of the interior countries, and the Ashantees that arrive on the coast seem so unwilling to give information, that nothing can be said bearing upon the present trade of the interior, and how and by what routes it is principally carried on. A large gold trade with the coast would be one of the first results of free communication; but this would, of itself, be of little benefit to the body of the people of this country; were they, however, to turn their attention more to industrial and mechanical pursuits, the result would probably be different, as a market would be near to them that they might conditionally command. The growth of coffee, for which some of the districts of the Settlement are, by proof, well adapted, and others of the higher articles of produce requiring tillage and care, would also probably find a market.

C. S. SALMON,
Acting Administrator.

GAMBIA.

No. 3.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Administrator SIMPSON to Governor POPE HENNESSY, C.M.G.

SIR, Government House, July 3, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book for the Settlement of the Gambia for the year 1871.

Having but recently arrived in the Colony, I have been compelled to entrust the compilation of Reports under the principal sections to the Heads of the Departments concerned.

The general character of these may, I think, be considered fairly satisfactory, the Colonial Surgeon's Report being especially favourable as regards the improved sanitary condition of the Colony.

I enclose copies of the Reports and Statistical Returns furnished me.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency (Signed) W. H. SIMPSON,
The Administrator-in-Chief, Administrator.
&c. &c. &c.

GAMBIA.

Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

THE COLLECTOR AND TREASURER'S REPORT.

SIR, Treasury Office, Bathurst, Gambia, June 22, 1872.

I have the honour to forward my Report to your Excellency as directed, partly detailing the respective headings of my Department as Collector and Treasurer, viz.:—

Revenue, Expenditure, Imports, Exports, and Shipping.

In first entering on the subject of revenue, your Excellency will perceive by the subjoined detailed abstract that the year 1871 shows a falling off in the sum as compared with the former year; but as an offset to this, it has been more carefully disbursed, and consequently covers the amount shown as expenditure.

The decrease is owing principally to the withdrawal of the Parliamentary grant and a less sale of spirits, consequent upon the removal of the troops and more people having become Mahomedans in the upper river.

Customs.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	15,429	18	3
1871 - - -	15,279	10	7
Decrease -	£150	7	8

Owing principally to a less consumption of spirits and sugar in the Colony.

Licences.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	940	0	0
1871 - - - -	850	0	0
Decrease - -	£90	0	0

This decrease is caused by fewer licences issued in British Combo.

Land Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	250	19	6
1871 - - - -	182	1	6
Decrease - -	£68	18	0

Owing to less ground being cultivated in British Combo.

Rents—exclusive of Land.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	576	0	4
1871 - - - -	572	2	6
Decrease - -	£3	17	10

Owing to the falling off of the market dues from year to year, the Administrator was compelled to let it under contract in April, 1871.

Fines, Forfeitures, &c.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	132	12	7
1871 - - - -	143	2	8
Increase - -	£10	10	1

This increase is caused by the increased population in Bathurst.

Miscellaneous Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	198	19	0
1871 - - - -	47	7	0
Decrease - -	£151	12	0

No over-payments to be recovered.

Reimbursements in aid.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	45	11	2
1871 - - - -	73	10	7
Increase - -	£27	19	5

Caused by more patients treated in hospital.

Postage.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	53	17	10
1871 - - - -	27	8	11
Decrease - -	£26	8	11

Owing to the discontinuance of the bi-monthly steamers calling at Bathurst in 1871.

Sale of Government Property.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	79	6	3
1871 - - - -	12	4	0
Decrease - -	£67	2	3

Shows a decrease of 67*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* over that of 1870; no condemned stores to be sold.

Parliamentary Grant.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	1,000	0	0
1871 - - -	nil.		
Decrease - -	£1,000	0	0

This grant is withdrawn, and the whole expenditure provided for out of the revenue of the Colony.

Auction Duty.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	46	1	8
1871 - - - -	87	7	9
Increase - -	£41	6	1

In consequence of sale of military stores, owing to removal of the troops.

The whole total decrease for the year 1871 against that of 1870 is 1,479*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	18,969	4	1
1871 - - -	17,490	3	10
Decrease -	£1,479	0	3

The expenditure during the year 1871 shows a decrease of 5,274*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* as against the year of 1870; and, especially when compared with former years, the contrast is very favourable. The lessened amount in 1871 is due principally to some of the salaries and allowances not being drawn in 1871.

Less stationery supplied, fees to Coroners being greatly reduced, fewer patients were treated in hospital, less criminals convicted in gaol, less amount of repairs to buildings, &c., subsidy for conveyance of mails being discontinued. Against this is the increase, viz.:—More additions to the Police force, addition to the prisoners' list, more repairs to roads in country districts, and the very important but very necessary item of supply of arms and ammunition for defence of the Colony. Payment of balance of share of construction of the 'Sherbro,' the Governor-in-Chief's yacht at Sierra Leone.

Notwithstanding the additional increase as shown, I think the expenditure of the Colony is very slight compared with former years.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	21,937	0	6
1871 - - -	16,662	15	2
Decrease -	6,470	17	10
Increase -	1,186	11	3
Total decrease -	£5,274	5	4

(See Table of Revenue and Expenditure, next page.)

Balance in the Colonial chest at the expiration of the year 1871 was 1,278*l.*, 3*s.* 5*d.* which, together with the sum of 4,400*l.* invested in the Government Debentures, will show the total sum of 5,678*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* to the credit of this Settlement.

Imports and Exports.

Under this heading the following statements will show an increase of both over those of 1870; the apparent decrease of Customs

Revenue.

	1870. £	s.	d.	1871. £	s.	d.
Customs	15,429	18	3	15,279	10	7
Licences	940	0	0	850	0	0
Land Revenue	250	0	0	182	1	6
Rents, exclusive of Land	576	0	4	572	2	6
Fines, Forfeitures, &c.	132	12	7	143	2	8
Miscellaneous Receipts	198	19	0	47	7	0
Reimbursements in aid	45	11	2	73	10	7
Postage	53	17	10	27	8	11
Sale of Government Property	79	6	3	12	4	0
Parliamentary Grant in aid	1,000	0	0	—		
Auction Duty	46	1	8	87	7	9
Interest on 4,400*l.* invested by the Crown Agents	215	8	4	215	8	4
	£18,969	4	1	£17,490	3	10

Expenditure.

	1870. £	s.	d.	1871. £	s.	d.
Salaries Fixed	10,338	12	6	8,793	13	0
,, Provisional	216	8	6	386	8	0
Allowances	483	6	7	373	15	7
Contingencies	163	7	5	108	15	9
Pensions, Retired Allowances, &c.	1,149	17	11	1,260	16	8
Revenue Services (exclusive of Establishments)	242	4	5	227	7	6
Administration of Justice	235	7	10	77	4	0
Charitable Allowances	150	19	0	156	6	0
Education (exclusive of Establishments)	347	12	7	215	19	0
Hospitals (exclusive of Establishments)	564	8	3	202	2	5
Police and Gaols (exclusive of Establishments)	940	13	10	670	8	6
Rent	152	12	9	50	0	0
Transport	269	18	5	243	14	2
Works and Buildings	2,535	14	9	830	4	7
Roads, Streets, and Bridges	540	1	3	616	7	6
Miscellaneous Services	1,091	19	11	734	18	3
Aborigines	665	7	5	441	12	0
Drawbacks and refund of Duties	100	18	8	132	1	9
Special Services	264	17	2	1,057	13	10
Conveyance of Mails	1,482	11	4	83	6	8
	£21,937	0	6	£16,662	15	2

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revenue, viz. 150*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* is owing in a great measure to a falling off in the sale of spirituous liquors, attributed principally to the removal of the troops, and more people having become Marabouts in the upper river.

Year.	Imports. £	s.	d.	Exports. £	s.	d.
1870	91,996	12	0	102,066	0	3
1871	142,517	15	11	153,101	1	5

Customs Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
1870	15,429	18	3
1871	15,279	10	7
Decrease	£150	7	8

Sale of Spirits.

	£	s.	d.
1870	2,637	8	0
1871	1,369	5	0
Decrease	£1,268	3	0

The principal source from which the Customs Revenue is derived, is from the export duty, and the duty on tobacco, cola nuts and spirits; but I fear that next year will show a very poor return of ground-nuts owing to the non-cultivation of the land in consequence of the disturbed state of the country.

Ad valorem Duty.

	£	s.	d.
1870	1,077	6	6
1871	1,418	13	0
Increase	£341	6	6

Duty on Ground-nuts.

	£	s.	d.
1870	3,370	5	1
1871	4,200	18	8
Increase	£840	13	7

Import Duty.

	£	s.	d.
1870	8,828	12	8
1871	7,681	9	5
Decrease	£1,147	3	3

Export Duty.

	£	s.	d.
1870 - - -	3,470	8	3
1871 - - -	4,329	0	2
Increase -	£858	11	11

Shipping.

This also keeps pace with the imports and exports for the past year, as it shows an increase on the year 1870.

Vessels.		1870.		1871.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Inwards	British - -	70	36,980	75	25,337
	Foreign - -	101	18,066	154	26,516
Outwards	British - -	80	41,319	77	25,632
	Foreign - -	105	17,549	134	22,365

Of the British ships 73 entered with cargoes and 2 with ballast; the foreign, 118 with cargoes and 36 with ballast. The vessels leaving with cargoes numbered 167, of 46,553 tons; while 44, of 1,444 tons, left in ballast.

Hoping that this detailed explanation will be sufficient to show the financial state as well as the progressive state of this Settlement, considering it is thrown wholly on its own resources,

I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. T. M. COOPER,
Collector and Treasurer.

Enclosure 2 in No. 3.

Enclosure 2 in No. 3.

COLONIAL CHAPLAIN'S REPORT on the ECCLESIASTICAL and EDUCATIONAL RETURNS for the year 1871.

Ecclesiastical.

The attendance at Divine worship in the Colonial Church has been well kept up during the past year, averaging, according to the vestry Church-book, 200 in the morning, and about 80 in the afternoon. Had we lamps for an evening service, the number attending at the latter service would have been doubled, as 4 P.M. is rather an inconvenient hour for the people. We have had as many as 250 at the morning service, and the chapel can only accommodate 300 people.

It may be well to refer here to the disadvantages under which, for many years, the Church—I mean the Church of England—laboured in the Gambia, and consequently the up-hill nature of the work now devolved upon me.

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The health of former English chaplains compelling them to leave their post so frequently, the little church was either shut up for the time being, or occasionally ministered to by a Wesleyan minister. Hence, with the exception of H.M. troops stationed here up to 1870, there was really no settled congregation as far as the bulk of the people were concerned. At my first communion I had only 3 communicants. At present we have from 15 to 20.

There is a week-day lecture besides, held in the church on Thursday evening, which is well attended.

Education.

The Government school was opened as soon as I arrived here, in 1869, with a few scholars, and in a short time the number increased to over 100. It is conducted by Mr. Cates, under my superintendence. The system pursued is *monitorial.* At the last Christmas examination, 1871, the bigger boys were examined in reading, arithmetic, grammar and parsing, geography, and easy lessons in geometry.

There was a good attendance of friends, including the Governor, who kindly presided. All expressed themselves satisfied at the results of the examination, although there is plenty of room for improvement.

There are, however, immense difficulties in the way of progress in this department. The parents of children do not sufficiently appreciate the great blessing of education.

In this respect Sierra Leone is far in advance of the Gambia. The consequence is, the children are neither regular nor punctual in their attendance at school.

Some attend only *two* days, some *one* day out of the five days of the week. Others show up *once* in three weeks, or *once* a month. The parents or guardians generally employ the children in selling goods in the market, &c. It is difficult to get the girls to attend regularly in the sewing department, from 1 to 3 P.M.

Thus we have had the mortification to see, in several cases, the fruit of our labours nipped in the bud in this department.

The children passed from our hands before any permanent good is effected. Nothing, to my mind, will answer here but the *compulsory system.*

The *Sunday school* is attended by nearly all the school children, with a few others. The number averages 60. I am assisted in this department by my schoolmaster and daughter, and two young men in connection with the congregation.

I have also commenced a separate school for the poor heathen children. They are quite naked and destitute, and belong to the tribe called Sërërës. Mr. C. Johnson has charge of this school.

The average number of attendance is from 8 to 12. The school is supported by voluntary contributions, by the Bishop of Sierra Leone, and other Christian friends.

(Signed) GEO. W. NICOL,
Col. Chaplain.

Enclosure 3 in No. 3.

MR. BROWN'S REPORT ON THE GAOL.

Enclosure 3 in No. 3.

MY DEAR GOVERNOR, Apsley House, Bathurst, June 4, 1872.

With respect to your inquiry about the gaol; although I have not recently visited it so frequently or regularly as I did, I can confidently report several improvements.

His Excellency Mr. Callaghan did much to improve the accommodation of the prisoners.

The female ward, which used to be a comfortless, miserable wooden shed, is now a part of the main building. Some steps have been taken to separate the misdemeanants and prisoners committed for trial from the convicts in their sleeping cells; the former now have their dormitory upstairs.

The ration of the prisoners consists of one pound of rice, half a pound of beef, and half a pound of bread daily to each; and, although better in nutriment than what the generality of men who fill our gaol get when they are out of it, is not so much appreciated by them as the country dishes mixed with palm oil, cassada, peppers, and other vegetables. The prisoners are better clothed and cared for than they used to be, and present a clean and orderly appearance.

I think it is to be regretted no visiting justice has been appointed to the gaol; the want of such an authority is often felt, as also the passing of certain new rules for the internal management of the gaol, the old rules having been cancelled.

I am aware that his Excellency Mr. Callaghan had both these points under consideration, as he often spoke to me about them; but, owing, I presume, to his state of health, nothing was done.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) THOMAS BROWN.

Enclosure 4 in No. 3.

COLONIAL SURGEON'S REPORT.

Enclosure 4 in No. 3.

Victoria Hospital, Bathurst, Gambia,
June 25, 1872.

SIR,

In presenting you with the Hospital Returns for the year 1871, I have the honour to state that the mortality is below that of the previous year. This gain in favour of life may be claimed as the legitimate result of the improved hygienic condition of the Colony.

This hospital, though small, is capable of accommodating 26 patients; but our daily average being six patients, there was no overcrowding. The hospital is built near the sea-shore, encircled by a stone wall about 5 feet high, the light and air are admitted into the wards by means of guillotine sash windows opposite each other; any unusual glare of sunlight is moderated by means of Venetian windows, the usual means adopted in the Colony.

Adjacent to the hospital is a bungalow surrounded by a cane fence, which admits of free ventilation; into this building the incurable are admitted.

During the past year upwards of 2,000 out-patients have been

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treated, and 100 in-patients; of these in-patients 47 were European sailors from the different ships in the harbour, and only two deaths occurred, one from consumption, and the other from delirium tremens.

The Colony is in a healthy state; the mortality, as taken from the Register of Deaths, was about 350, including hospital and gaol.

Of the deaths, one-sixth was due to disease of the respiratory organs, including phthisis, which carried off the natives during the prevalence of the very cold winds. Small-pox prevailed to some extent, but was only fatal in four cases in the town.

Measles also, but the mortality was very small.

From simple intermittent fever twenty deaths in all took place; this is a considerable reduction to the previous year, there is little doubt but that this result is due directly to an increased efficiency in sanitary supervision.

In conclusion, I must apologize for not being able to furnish any meteorological observations, as the Colony does not possess any means of supplying this desired information, but I will take this opportunity of suggesting that a complete set of meteorological instruments be obtained as soon as practicable.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) THOS. H. SPILSBURY,
Colonial Surgeon.

LAGOS.

LAGOS.

No. 4.

No. 4.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Acting Administrator Governor POPE HENNESSY, C.M.G.

SIR, Government House, August 8, 1872.

3 copies.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of this Settlement for the year 1871.

2. The absence of the principal officers and my recent arrival prevents me giving any more information beyond that which a comparison with former years will afford.

3. *Taxes, Duties, and other sources of Revenue* and *Fees* are the same as those of previous years.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The estimated revenue for the year 1871 was 48,881*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, but that actually received amounted to 45,612*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, showing the difference of 3,279*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* This difference I find under the head of Customs, which was estimated at 39,000*l.*, but only yielded 33,307*l.* 3*s.*

The Customs receipts for the three years previous are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
1868 - -	25,350	3	0
1869 - - -	33,200	5	9
1870 - -	32,065	18	4
1871 - - -	33,307	3	0

In the absence of any alteration in the tariff, it will be seen by the above that the actual receipts do not compare unfavourably with former years.

The only special items in the revenue calling for remark are, confiscated goods, 408*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*; repairs, steamer 'Rio Formoso,' 662*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*; and a temporary local loan of 1,800*l.* The revenue is about the same as that for 1870, if the above special items, which hardly belong to the revenue proper, are taken into account, and contrasts favourably with previous years, viz.:—

Revenue.

1868, 33,896*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*; 1869, 40,622*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*; 1870, 42,875*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*; and for 1871, 45,612*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*; deducting the special items above referred to, 2,871*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, makes the real revenue 42,740*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*

Expenditure.

The estimated expenditure for 1871 was 48,494*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* The actual expenditure, 45,611*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*, showing a saving effected of 2,882*l.* 14*s.* on the estimated expenditure. The only items calling for remark are—settlement of debts of previous years, 5,751*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*; repayment of local loan, 1,800*l.*; total, 7,551*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* The expenditure for the last three years was:

	£	s.	d.
1868 - -	33,896	3	9
1869 - - -	40,622	11	6
1870 - -	42,875	5	10
1871 - - -	45,611	14	4

Comparing the revenue and expenditure for 1871, viz. revenue, 45,612*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*; expenditure, 45,611*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*; a balance of 8*s.* 5*d.* remains in the Colonial Chest to the credit of the Settlement at the end of the year; but against this balance, on referring to page 46 of the Blue Book, is found a list of liabilities amounting to 14,442*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*, but it is gratifying to note that most of these outstanding debts are marked as "have since been paid off," that is, I presume, during the current year. However, on the 22nd June, 1872, it was ascertained by your Excellency that the liabilities of the Settlement amounted, on that date, to 13,810*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* These appear to have been incurred in some measure for the defence of the frontier, when it was reported that in all probability hostilities were imminent without as well as within the Settlement.

Public Works.

A sum of 3,834*l.* was provided for "Works and Buildings" and "Roads, Streets, and Bridges," but the amount expended was 811*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* and 351*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* respectively for ordinary current repairs.

Legislation.

There are nine Ordinances appearing under this head, but only three as yet have been confirmed by Her Majesty, viz. Nos. 5, 9, and 11, leaving four, Nos. 1, 3, 8, and 10, still under consideration, the remaining two, Nos. 2 and 7, being repealed or superseded by Nos. 9 and 8 respectively of the same year. The Ordinances refer to "subjecting real estate to the payment of debts;" "giving the "Administrator power to prohibit the export of arms, etc.;" "providing "for the protection and administration of unrepresented estates;" "naturalizing Mr. Meyer;" "establishing the fees to be taken by "Customs officers;" and two appropriation Ordinances, one for 1871, and the other for 1872.

Education.

It appears by the return under this head in the Blue Book, which was completed when I arrived, that the total number of scholars is 1,850.

Males - - -	1,043
Females - - -	807
Total - -	1,850

But I presume that the scholars attending the day and Sunday school at Olowogbowo, Ereko, and Idumagbo, in connection with the Wesleyan Missionary Society, are the same; but as they are enumerated as weekday and Sunday pupils, it will be necessary to deduct the latter to arrive at the actual number of scholars.

Those attending Sunday school are 254, and may properly be deducted from the total given in the Blue Book, viz. 1,850; deduct, 254, leaving 1,596 as the actual number of scholars. They are divided as follows:—

Church Missionary Society - - - - - -	850
Wesleyan - - - - - - - - -	315
Roman Catholic - - - - - - - - -	272
Baptist - - - - - - - - - -	32
1 Infant School supported by fees - - - -	24
1 Infant School supported by voluntary contributions -	79
1 Primary School Committee, Lagos - - - -	24
	1,596

The mode of instruction is mostly monitorial, and the rest elementary, with the exception of the Training Institution in connection with the Church Missionary Society. The Government contributed 35*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* in aid of education, but this year, as your Excellency is aware, you provided a sum of 300*l.* to be equally distributed between

the Church Missionary Society, the Roman Catholics, and the Wesleyans.

That education is appreciated by the inhabitants of Lagos will be seen by a subscription which was set on foot for the purpose of assisting the introduction of Sisters belonging to the Catholic Mission, which amounted to over 300*l.*

I may observe that, although the Catholic missionaries have been stationed here some three years, this is the first occasion of their schools being mentioned in the Blue Book returns.

Population.

A census was taken during the year 1871. The population of the Island of

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Lagos was - - -	13,520	14,998	28,518
Badagry - -	1,148	1,343	2,491
Palma - - -	431	383	814
Leckie - - -	99	66	165
Total for Lagos Settlement	15,198	16,790	31,988

A census also appears to have been taken of the districts, towns, and villages surrounding Lagos, showing a population of—males, 12,665; females, 15,568; total, 28,233; which, combined with the Lagos Settlement, 31,988, makes a total of 60,221, of whom 94 are Europeans.

Next to the natives of the place and the interior, the Brazilian Emancipados are the most numerous, they are constantly arriving by every opportunity at Lagos, I presume in consequence of the late Emancipation Law in Brazil; their number is estimated by some from 4,000 to 6,000. They are principally Roman Catholics, and are very poor; then come the Sierra Leonians, Kroomen, and Fantees. There is a preponderance of females, and more especially in the districts. The majority are pagans, to the extent of nearly one-half, the Mahomedans represent a third, and the Episcopalians are enumerated in the census at 2,869; Wesleyans, 1,018; Roman Catholics, 6,534;* Baptists, 71; Presbyterian, 2.

In Lagos there are 103 brick, 3 frame, 2 iron, and 3,789 mud houses.

Imports and Exports.

The imports and exports still preserve their relative proportion to one another, with the exception of the year 1870, and, although the imports have slightly decreased in comparison with the two last years, the exports, I am glad to find, have increased, viz.:—

	Imports.			Exports.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1868 - -	340,815	6	10	517,253	17	11
1869 - - -	416,895	1	6	669,598	12	0
1870 - -	400,558	5	9	515,365	14	0
1871 - - -	391,653	8	10	589,802	9	7

* Including Brazilian Emancipados.

LAGOS.

The principal importations are from Great Britain, Germany, Brazil, and France.

	Great Britain.	Germany.	Brazil.	France.
	£	£	£	£
1868 - -	224,829	36,021	17,853	6,791
1869 - -	290,622	34,183	29,526	25,163
1870 - -	272,684	41,135	37,026	13,195
1871 - -	299,670	37,596	17,134	6,776

Large quantities were also imported from Mozambique and Zanzibar.

The principal exports are to Great Britain, France, Germany, Porto Novo, and Brazils, as will be seen by the following returns:—

Exports.

	Great Britain.	France.	Germany.	Porto Novo.	Brazils.
	£	£	£	£	£
1868 - - -	244,396	113,188	114,086	9,758	8,120
1869 - - -	374,854	191,221	78,777	6,545	9,483
1870 - - -	298,939	126,576	56,589	20,823	3,762
1871 - - -	377,796	93,095	80,998	23,733	14,178

Shipping

does not appear to call for any remark, as it is of much the same character as previous years.

Gaol.

The subject of the gaol will be treated of in a separate Despatch, when further inquiry has been made relative thereto.

Crime seems to be of the same class as formerly, and the number of prisoners the usual average.

In conclusion, the year 1871 compares favourably with its predecessors. Some movements and agitation occurred towards the end of the year, in consequence of complications with neighbouring tribes, but the general prosperity of the Settlement was not materially affected during that year.

Trusting your Excellency will excuse my being unable to give a more encouraging report,

I have, &c.,

His Excellency
Governor Pope Hennessy, C.M.G.,
The Administrator in Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) HENRY FOWLER,
Acting Administrator.

TASMANIA.

No. 5.

To the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Legislative Council Office, Hobart Town,
June 18, 1872.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to you the statistics of this Colony for 1871.

As the meeting of Parliament will take place considerably earlier this year than has usually been the case, and the volume will in consequence have to be completed so much sooner, it will be necessary to make my observations on the returns contained in it as brief as possible, and to confine them chiefly to such matters as relate to the material condition of the Colony.

I am sorry to say that the tables relating to road trusts and the political franchise are not complete, since from one of the trusts and from several electoral districts, I have been unable to obtain returns.

I. *Population.*

Population.

Instead of reprinting the tables of the last census, I have deemed it more convenient and useful to make abstracts of them, adding thereto the calculations given in my last report.

The estimated population on December 31, 1871, was 101,785, consisting of 53,911 males, and 47,874 females, being an increase on that of the previous year of 447 males, and 573 females, amounting together to 1,020. The total increase was therefore at the rate of 1·01 per cent.

The increase by excess of births over deaths was 1,698, or 1·68 per cent., being 780 males, and 918 females.

Immigration and emigration.

The decrease by excess of emigration over immigration was 678, or 0·67 per cent., being 333 males, and 345 females.

The number of persons who arrived in the Colony in 1871 was 4,648; the number of those who left it 5,326, leaving a loss to the population, as above, of 678. In the previous year the arrivals were 5,982,—the departures 5,888.

The number if immigrants introduced in 1871 under what is known as the "bounty system," was 9, of whom England, Scotland, and Ireland furnished equal proportions.

II. *Trade, Commerce, and Navigation.*

Imports.

The value of the imports in 1871 was 778,087*l.*, against 792,916*l.* in 1870, being a decrease of 14,829*l.*, or 1·87 per cent.

The rate per head of imports was, in 1871, 7*l.* 12*s.* 6½*d.*; in 1870, 7*l.* 17*s.* 4½*d.*; in 1868,* 8*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.*; in 1867, 8*l.* 13*s.* 11½*d.*; in 1866, 9*l.* 1*s.* 2¼*d.*

* The year 1869 is excluded as being quite exceptional, in consequence of a large importation of railway plant and specie.

TASMANIA.

The import trade with the different countries in 1871 was as follows:—

Countries.	Value of Imports.	Proportion per Cent. of Total Imports.
	£	
United Kingdom - - - -	272,797	35·06
Victoria - - - - - -	407,294	52·35
New South Wales - - - -	34,545	4·44
South Australia - - - - -	—	—
Queensland - - - - -	7,785	1·00
New Zealand - - - - -	2,260	·29
Mauritius - - - - - -	45,151	5·80
Maldon Island - - - - -	2,520	·32
South Seas - - - - -	5,735	·74
Total - - - -	778,087	100·00

Comparing the figures in the second column with those given in the last Report, it appears that the proportion of our import trade with the United Kingdom was less only in 1867 and 1868; that with Victoria occupied a larger proportion of the total value than in any of the five years except 1868; with New South Wales, New Zealand, and Mauritius, a smaller than in any year except 1869; with Queensland, an increase in the period generally, if we except 1869. From South Australia the imports in 1870 were very small (only 2,150*l.*); in 1871 there were none.

As regards the actual values we find that in the last five years the imports from the United Kingdom were less only in 1868; that from Victoria they were more than in 1870, but considerably less than in the other years; that from New Zealand they were less only in 1869; and that from the Mauritius they were less than in any of those years. The imports from South Australia altogether ceased in 1871; out those from Queensland had increased steadily from 1868, when they were only 135*l.*

The total value of goods imported at Hobart Town and Launceston respectively in 1871, was—

	£
Hobart Town - - - - - - -	448,990
Launceston - - - - - - - -	329,097
	£778,087

Exports.

The total value of the exports in 1871 was 740,638*l.*, against 648,709*l.* in the previous year, showing an increase of 91,929*l.*, or 14·17 per cent. The value of Tasmanian produce exported was 730,946*l.*, or 86·92 per cent.; that of foreign produce, 9,692*l.*, or 13·08 per cent. In 1870, the proportion per cent. of home to foreign produce was as 96·42 to 3·58; in 1869, as 96·39 to 3·61; and in 1868, as 98·72 to 1·28.

The rate per head of exports was,—in 1871, 7*l.* 5*s.* 6¼*d.*; in 1870, 6*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*; in 1869, 8*l.* 2*s.* 9½*d.*; in 1868, 9*l.* 2*s.* 10½*d.*; in 1867, 8*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*; and in 1866, 8*l.* 11*s.* 5¼*d.*

The distribution of the exports in 1871 was as follows:—

Countries.	Value of Exports.	Proportion per Cent. of Total Exports.
	£	
United Kingdom - - - -	337,508	45·57
Victoria - - - - - -	262,734	35·47
New South Wales - - - -	86,119	11·63
South Australia - - - - -	12,695	1·71
Queensland - - - - -	7,905	1·07
New Zealand - - - - -	32,332	4·37
Hong Kong - - - - -	1,190	·16
Fiji Islands - - - - - -	155	·02
Total - - -	740,638	100·00

The proportion of our produce transmitted to the United Kingdom exceeded that in 1870 and 1869; while that sent to Victoria was less than in those years, but greater than in 1867 and 1868. The proportion taken by New South Wales was rather less than in 1870 and 1868, but greater than in the other years; by South Australia and New Zealand somewhat greater than in 1870, but less than in the other years; by Queensland nearly the same as in 1869, but less than in the other years.

As to the actual values of the exports to other countries,—with the United Kingdom the trade was larger in 1871 than in the two previous years; with Victoria it was less only in 1867; with New South Wales there was an increase on all the five years, except 1868; with South Australia and New Zealand, there was an improvement only as compared with 1870; with Queensland there was a decrease generally. To Mauritius there seem to have been no shipments of goods whatever.

At Hobart Town and Launceston respectively the exports in 1871 were—

	£
Hobart Town - - - - - - -	387,056
Launceston - - - - - - - -	353,582
	£740,638

Compared with the figures for 1870, there is an increase at both ports.

Referring now to the decennial return of the quantities of the principal articles exported, we find that of butter and cheese declined from 1,719 cwts. in 1870 and 2,859 cwts. in 1869 to 786 cwts. in 1871; the export in the last being the smallest in the ten years. Of flour, 1,990 tons were exported in 1871, against 1,073 tons in 1870, the quantity in 1871 being, however, below the general average. In fruit, preserved (jam), there was an increase from 1,489,940 lbs. in 1870 to 1,552,510 lbs. in 1871; in fruit, green, a decrease from 144,622 bushels to 131,747 bushels; the export in 1871 being the smallest in the period. In wheat there was an increase as between the two years from 78,955 bushels to 172,537 bushels; in oats, a decrease from 359,225 bushels to 335,968 bushels; though the com-

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parison, as regards the whole decade, is not unfavourable. The export of barley in 1871 was 28,552 bushels; the largest in any previous year of the ten having been 13,301 bushels. It will be observed that a new article—gold—has been introduced into the return. It was not inserted in 1870, although 2,141 ozs. were exported, because none had appeared in the Customs returns for many years past, and it was uncertain whether the yield was likely to continue. As the permanency of at least one gold field—the Black Boy—seems now to be no longer doubtful, it has been inserted on the present occasion. The export in 1871 was 3,702 ozs., being an increase of 1,561 ozs., or 72·91 per cent. Hides, skins, and leather show an increase, but the quantity, being partly in packages and partly in cwts., cannot be ascertained; taking the value therefore as our criterion, it appears to have been considerable, the amount having risen from 23,180*l.* in 1870 (hitherto the largest), to 29,493*l.* in 1871. The article hops was another which stood in precisely the same position; the export in 1871 having been 481,267 lbs., and in 1870, which showed a large increase as compared with any previous year, only 365,489 lbs. Unfortunately, however, there was a decline in price in 1871, which is shown by a decline in the total value from 26,230*l.* to 23,200*l.*, and in the price per pound, from 1*s.* 5¼*d.* to 11½*d.* Live stock—sheep and cattle—show a small increase on the previous year, but the numbers are miserably small compared with those in former years. The export of sperm oil was considerably arger than in 1870, and above the average of the whole period. There also appears the item of black oil 4,318¾* tuns in 1871. This oil (with the exception of 6¾ galls. from Hobart Town) is stated by the collector of Customs at Launceston to have been procured from a shoal of black-fish which were thrown up on the north-east coast, near Cape Portland. The timber trade seems to have improved in 1871, the value having increased from 37,267*l.* in 1870 (the lowest in the period), to 49,540*l.* Vegetables show a slight decrease in quantity, but a considerable decrease in value—from 24,315*l.* to 17,132*l.*

Wool.

The weight of wool exported in 1871 was 5,254,719 lbs., against 4,146,913 lbs. in 1870, being an increase of 1,107,806 lbs. The declared value was, in 1871, 298,160*l.*, and in 1870, 246,402*l.*, the increase being 51,758*l.* The price of wool per pound, as fixed for Customs purposes, appears from these data to have been 1*s.* 2¼*d.* in 1870, and 1*s.* 1½*d.* in 1871.

Total commerce.

The amount of the imports and exports in 1871, added together, representing the total sea-borne trade, was 1,518,725*l.*, showing an increase upon the corresponding amount in the preceding year (which was 1,441,625*l.*), of 77,100*l.*, or 5·35 per cent.

Shipping.

The number and tonnage of shipping in the last two years was—

Years.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1870 - -	613	105,647	611	107,263
1871 - - -	635	107,271	648	108,889

* In the return at p. 51, this quantity appears as 4,618¾, 300 galls. of foreign production having been inadvertently included.

The aggregate tonnage both inwards and outwards was—

In 1870 - - - - - - -	212,910
In 1871 - - - - - - - -	216,160

The increase being 3,250 tons, or 1·53 per cent.

At Hobart Town and Launceston respectively the tonnage in 1871 was—

	Inwards.	Outwards.
Hobart Town - - - -	50,242	52,904
Launceston and sub-ports - -	57,029	55,985

The increase in the tonnage of 1871 occurred entirely at the sub-ports, since at Hobart Town and Launceston there was a decrease. As regards the shipping inwards (and the case of shipping outwards is precisely the same), this will be clearly seen from the subjoined table.

Ports.	Tonnage Inwards.		Increase (+) or Decrease (−) per Cent.
	1870.	1871.	
Hobart Town - - -	51,866	50,242	− 3·13
Launceston - - - -	36,072	35,419	− 1·81
Ditto, sub-ports - - -	17,709	21,610	+ 22·03

The increase was principally at Leith. At Stanley there was a slight decrease.

The return of the state of shipping registered on 31st December, 1871, shows an increase of 654 tons, the numbers being in 1870, 16,913 tons; in 1871, 17,567. In the latter year 14 new vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 943, were registered.

Steamers.

The steamers on the register were less by one, with a tonnage of 424, in 1871 than in the previous year.

Whale fisheries.

In the whale fisheries there were engaged in 1871,—vessels, 19, with a tonnage of 4,917; crews, 470: being an increase upon those of the preceding year of vessels, 4, with tonnage, 1,471; crews, 94. The increase in the quantity and value of oil and whalebone produced by vessels entered inwards (not including 4,312 gallons of oil obtained from the accidental capture of blackfish before referred to) was—black oil, 4 tuns; sperm oil, 211 tuns; whalebone, 100 lbs.; in the value, 10,470*l*.

Coal.

In the quantity of coal raised in the year 1871, namely, 9527 tons, I am sorry to observe there is a decrease of 259 tons, the quantity being smaller at Seymour and Tasman's Peninsula, while at New Town and Port Sorell it was increased.

Rates of wages.

Taking Hobart and Launceston as a criterion, the rates of wages seemed to have been somewhat lower in 1871 than in 1870. The wages of agricultural labourers at Hobart, however, are returned at higher rates.

Market prices.

The return of market prices at Hobart Town shows but few, and those inconsiderable, variations, as compared with the previous years. The contract price of the following articles of ordinary consumption,

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namely, bread, flour, salt, was higher; while that of butcher's meat, butter, coffee, tea, eggs, porter, soap, and port wine, was lower.

Trades and manufactories.

The total number of trades and manufactories returned in 1871 was 3,101, against 3,194 in 1870.

Taking some of the principal trades as a criterion, we find an increase of—boot and shoemakers, 45; corn and ship chandlers, 3; gardeners (market), 2; grocers and general dealers, 15; millwrights, 5; saddle and harness makers, 4; saw mills, 8; ship and boat builders, 4; stonemason, 1; tailor, 1: while there is a decrease of—agricultural implement makers, 4; breweries, 6; bricklayers, 13; builders, 25; butchers, 32; carpenters, 17; fellmongers, 9; hawkers, 2; plasterers, 6; printing offices, 3; publicans, 25; wheelwrights, 8. The disappearance of 8 jam manufacturers and 2 maltsters may not unreasonably be assumed to have been caused by the operation of the protective duties imposed by our neighbours.

III. *Finance.*

Revenue and expenditure.

The following statement, furnished by the Assistant Colonial Treasurer, shows the financial transactions of the Government in the last two years:—

RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of GENERAL REVENUE and LAND FUND, for the years 1870 and 1871, as ascertained up to May 31, 1872.

GENERAL REVENUE, exclusive of DEBENTURES and EXPENDITURE under LOANS ACTS.

	1870.			1871.		
REVENUE.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Customs and bonding rents	137,034	16	10	140,987	0	8
Inland revenue	56,099	9	5	52,250	17	0
Other receipts	27,681	15	1	26,278	16	6
Estimated receipts outstanding	—			13,930	1	11
	220,816	1	4	233,446	16	1
EXPENDITURE.						
Ordinary expenditure	224,146	1	0	230,864	9	0
Estimated expenditure outstanding	—			600	0	0
	224,146	1	0	231,464	9	0

LAND FUND, exclusive of DEBENTURES and EXPENDITURE under LOANS ACTS.

	1870.			1871.		
REVENUE.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Territorial revenue	46,264	4	9	35,514	0	4
Other receipts	1,615	15	4	896	10	6
	47,880	0	1	36,410	10	10
EXPENDITURE.						
Ordinary expenditure	47,723	3	8	45,224	6	1
Reserve under Waste Lands Acts	9,505	1	1	7,318	16	9
Estimated expenditure outstanding	—			100	0	0
	57,228	4	9	52,643	2	10

W. LOVETT, Assistant Colonial Treasurer.

Imperial expenditure.

The expenditure on account of the Imperial Government was 32,772*l.* 6*s.*, against 65,759*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* in 1870, being a reduction of more than 50 per cent.

Course of exchange.

The bank exchange on London was steady at 1 per cent. discount for purchasing, and 1 per cent. premium for selling bills; the rates for buying in 1870 ranging from one-half per cent. discount to 1½ per cent. premium; and for selling from 1 to 3 per cent. premium. The violent fluctuations which appeared in 1870 did not reappear, therefore, in 1871. The exchange on the other colonies was the same in both years.

Such was also the case with the rates of discount and interest on bank deposits.

Banks.

The most significant items in the Bank returns for the two past years are compared below:—

Years.	Average Assets.		Average Liabilities.	
	Coin and Bullion.	Debts due to Banks, &c.*	Notes in Circulation.	Deposits.
	£	£	£	£
1870 - -	185,755	1,084,966	86,094	712,472
1871 - - -	178,858	1,048,331	79,815	656,186

* Including Notes, Bills of Exchange, Stock and Funded Debts, but not including Debts due from other Banks.

By referring to the last report, the comparison may be carried back to 1866. It thus appears that the quantity of coin and bullion in 1871 was larger than in 1866–8; the debts due to banks greater than in 1866-7, and 1869; the notes in circulation of larger amount than in 1867-8; while the amount of deposits was smaller only in 1867.

Savings' banks.

The business of the savings' banks for the two last years was—

Years.	Average Assets.			Average Liabilities.		Deposits. during the Year.	Repayments during the Year.
	Mortgages.	Debentures.	Cash in other Banks, and on hand.	Amount of Deposits.	Reserve Fund.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1870	134,492	87,189	19,595	223,262	23,648	119,120	109,065
1871	145,700	78,542	14,721	219,752	24,958	112,981	121,600

The increase under the head of mortgages was caused by a sum of 13,084*l.* at Launceston having been transferred to that column from debenture account.

Post-office money orders.

The number of Post-office money-orders issued in 1871 was 5,685, and the amount 21,015*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*; the number paid 4,411, and the amount 16,467*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* The increase upon the corresponding figures for 1870 was,—number *issued*, 9·47, amount 8·68 per cent.; number *paid*, 18·51, amount 13·18 per cent. The great convenience of this mode of transmitting small sums of money seems to be well understood.

Of the whole amount (omitting fractions) of orders issued, those on other places in Tasmania were in the proportion of 39·84 per cent.;

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on England and Wales, 13·97 per cent.; on New South Wales, 5·79 per cent.; on New Zealand, 2·11; and on Victoria, 32·52 per cent. Of the amount of orders paid, the proportions were,—issued in Tasmania, 49·34 per cent.; in England and Wales, 6·18; in New South Wales, 8·39; in New Zealand, 6·84; in Victoria, 24·15.

Public debt.

The public debt on the 31st December, 1871, was 1,294,400*l.* Beside this, debentures to the amount of 34,000*l.* were authorized to be issued, but had not been issued, on that date.

Gold mining.

The return relating to gold-mining presents a favourable comparison with that for the previous year, and is at the same time more complete; although it will always be impossible to obtain more than an approximate result as regards the yield from alluvial operations.

In 1870 the quantity of gold produced from these operations, so far as could be ascertained, was 600 ozs.; in 1871 it was 4,020 ozs. The quantity of quartz crushed in 1870 was returned as 884 tons; in 1871, 4,045 tons. The yield in 1870 was 364 ozs., valued at 1,360*l.*; in 1871, 1,985½ ozs., valued at 7,699*l.* Making all due allowances for the greater imperfection of the earlier return, it is plain that in 1871 a much greater degree of activity was shown in gold mining than in the previous year. This is also seen from the Customs returns, the exports of gold in 1870 having been 2,141 ozs.; in 1871, 3,702 ozs.

The average yield per ton of quartz crushed in 1871 was 8 dwts. 1¾ grs. The highest, at Mangana and Reedy Marsh, was 12 dwts. 12·29 grs. per ton; the lowest, at Waterhouse, was 4 dwts. 10·85 grs. The average cost of crushing was 9*s.* 9*d.* per ton.

The prospects of gold mining in Tasmania are, on the whole, decidedly favourable; but it is much to be regretted that the progress of this industry is impeded by three causes—1. The absence of a sufficient mining population thoroughly to test the ground; 2. The want of capital for quartz mining; and 3. The locking up of the extensive flats, where the deep leads would probably be found, in the neighbourhood of Reedy Marsh. It would be a great advantage to the district, to the whole Colony, and to the proprietors themselves, if these flats were thrown open, under proper regulations, for mining purposes. The importance of this consideration is greatly increased by the fact that the present alluvial ground at Reedy Marsh must soon be worked out; and if the progress of quartz mining be not sufficiently rapid to counterbalance the decline in alluvial, the population of the rising little town of Mathinna must be scattered to other districts, or driven out of the Colony.

The Gold Commissioner for the district of Fingal reports as follows:

"During the year 1871 gold-mining has made slow, if sure, progress, in this district.

"With the single exception of the Tower Hill Quartz Company, which carries on its operations some three miles from the village of Mangana, the whole of the gold-mining in the Fingal district, both alluvial and quartz, has been carried on within a radius of about two miles at the furthest from the township upon the Black Boy gold field, and which has lately received the name of Mathinna.

"The population at this latter place has, however, steadily increased during the past year, and a rough census taken during the first week

in January, 1872, gave the following as the population on 31st December, 1871 :—

Miners and Labourers on Reefs	60
Ditto alluvial	250
Storekeepers	5
Butchers	2
Bakers	2
Publicans	2
Shoemakers	2
Carpenters	12
Sawyers	6
Splitters	2
Servants	24
Unenumerated	20
Total adult Males	387
Women	93
Children	100
	580
To these may be added Miners and Labourers at Mangana	30
Women and Children belonging to them	20
Total	630

"Alluvial mining has been carried on with greater activity during the past year as compared with 1870.

"The reduction in the size of claims has conduced much to this result, and claims might be still further reduced in area with advantage.

"I anticipate that alluvial mining will come to an end in this district during the current year, unless fresh discoveries are made, as the area of known alluvial ground is of very limited extent.

"The population on the Black Boy will have some difficulty in making a living during the coming winter, and it is to be earnestly hoped that unemployed persons in the towns may not be led away by the accounts that have from time to time been published of this gold field, and come here with the idea of getting employment. The population is already composed of such elements that an influx of low-class persons only accustomed to a town life would lead to very undesirable results.

"Young, active single men of steady habits and inured to hardship might, in very limited numbers, find employment, especially if they had a knowledge of quartz mining; but unless a very considerable and unlooked-for impetus is given to reefing, even these would find a difficulty in getting a living. A large number of reefs with most promising indications are already known, but the apathy or want of means of those interested in testing them keeps quartz mining in a state of stagnation.

"The City of Hobart Company is still at work, and has obtained very satisfactory results, the crushing of about 1,000 tons of quartz having yielded some 4,000*l.* worth of gold. The mine still promises well, and would, I believe, prove a profitable investment had the

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company sufficient capital to carry on operations on a fitting scale. The Caledonian Company will probably have machinery at work by the end of June; and an attempt is being made to obtain a public crushing machine, which is regarded by many as the one thing needful to secure the prosperity of the district. The tables already forwarded by me show the practical results of the work of the past year, and I can add but little as to actual progress since the date of my last report.

"A revision of the Gold Fields Act and Regulations is urgently needed, and if properly carried out, would relieve the commissioners of a great amount of annoyance and difficulty which they now experience in the discharge of their duties."

The commissioner at George Town, in forwarding his return, says:—

* * * * * * *

"Although the return cannot be supposed to be quite accurate, it is, I believe, a near approximation to the actual result of the year's operations.

* * * * * * *

"I have to acknowledge the readiness with which the particulars necessary for compiling the return have been furnished whenever applied for. There has, however, been a difficulty in ascertaining the exact quantity of gold obtained by the Chinese, and their reply to inquiries is invariably the same, 'poor diggings.' They exhibit extreme reluctance to let the result of their work become known, and I have estimated it from the apparent circumstances of the men.

"The yield of gold at Waterhouse was small. Quartz crushing was suspended until the close of the year, and the quantity given in the return is, with the exception of three or four ounces, the result of one cleaning up of one machine. Crushing operations have since continued, and are now in full play. Several co-operative parties, holding claims under miners' rights, were engaged raising quartz during the latter part of the year, and some have had trial crushings since the close of it, with, however, not very satisfactory results: nevertheless there is at this moment more *bonâ fide* mining at Waterhouse than at any previous time in its history.

"The Back Creek is now practically deserted, the attractions at the Black Boy gold fields having drawn off the alluvial miners.

"Mining operations are being conducted at the Nine Mile Springs with less energy than last year, but perhaps in a more wholesome spirit. Two reefs, the Excelsior and Industry, are being worked, and several parties of miners are engaged prospecting other claims, and in procuring gold from alluvial deposit. There are also a number of Chinese, whose operations are, I believe, highly remunerative. They have been joined recently by a number of their countrymen from Victoria, and I am told others are preparing to come over from that Colony."

I believe, in spite of several apparent or temporary failures, that the only thing necessary to ensure at least a fair amount of success in gold mining in this Colony, is adequate capital. Those who have realized the capital here will not risk it in such undertakings; and until the means can be obtained from abroad to develop the mineral

wealth—gold, silver, iron, &c.—known to exist in the island, all progress will be slow and uncertain. The Black Boy gold field has been so far proved as to lend strong probability to the conclusion that with a capital of say 20,000*l.*, capable of being extended, if necessary, a mining company might, under skilled and judicious management, make a handsome profit by working promising reefs which are now neglected through want of money, and when the batteries were not otherwise employed, in crushing for the public. The risk involved in such a venture is not greater than that which is continually incurred by capitalists in other undertakings. A considerable amount of money is now invested in Mexican and other foreign mines; and there would surely be less hazard were it placed in a British Colony where the Government is stable, and property is securely protected by the law.

IV. *Establishments or Institutions Maintained or Assisted by Government.*

Post-office.

On the present occasion a change has been made in the Post-office returns, by including the letters, newspapers, &c., which passed through the country post-offices; in former years this was not done. It would be futile therefore to make any comparison between the returns of 1871 and those of previous years.

In 1871 the number of inland letters received was 763,878, and of ship letters, 188,934; the number of inland newspapers 472,468, and of ship newspapers 212,688. The numbers despatched were—letters, 998,489; newspapers, 890,820.

Electric telegraph.

The working of the electric telegraph in 1871, as compared with 1870, was not satisfactory. In the number of paid messages there was a decrease of 1,144, or slightly more than 10 per. cent.; and in the amount received, a decrease of 71*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*

Salmon breeding establishment.

The return showing the expense of the establishment at New Norfolk for the breeding of salmon and trout, presents no feature worthy of remark. It will be sufficient to subjoin a return furnished by the secretary to the Salmon Commissioners, showing the results of their operations for the furtherance of pisciculture during the past year.

Return showing the Distribution of Ova and Fry from the Breeding Ponds, River Plenty, during the Year ending 31st December, 1871.

OVA.

Salmon Trout—Launceston	- - - -	750
Brown Trout—Victoria	- - - - -	3,300
Launceston	- - - -	1,000
Chudleigh	- - - - -	600

FRY.

Salmon Trout—River Huon	- - - -	70
Brown Trout—Bagdad Rivulet	- - - -	500
River Jordan	- - - -	500
Lake Echo	- - - - -	500
River Ouse	- - - -	1,000
River Derwent	- - - -	1,000

FRY—*continued.*

Brown Trout—River Jordan		500
Back River		400
River Styx		500
Southport		400
Port Esperance		400
Seymour		50
Broad Marsh		50
Guy Fawkes Rivulet		80
River Huon		650
Victoria		700
Total		12,950

Penal and charitable institutions.

I have not time to dwell on the returns relating to penal and charitable institutions. It will be sufficient to remark that they show, generally, a diminution of expense, except in regard to pauperism, which is becoming a serious item in the expenditure of the Colony, and will soon force itself into a position of special prominence. At the Brickfields there was an increase of $7\frac{3}{4}$ in the daily average number of paupers, with a corresponding augmentation of expenditure of 1,029*l.* 3*s.* 0½*d.*; and in the disbursements of the benevolent societies there was an increase of 932*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* But the most serious indication of the extension of pauperism is furnished by the returns of out-door relief distributed by the Government, which show an increase from 5,703*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* in 1870 to 7,056*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* in 1871, a difference of 1,353*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* From the report of the Royal Commission on Charitable Institutions it appears that the sum disbursed on this account was, in 1862, only 48*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, from which small beginning it has grown year by year to its present amount.

V. *Crown Lands.*

Land sold.

The land sales in 1871, compared with those in 1870, show the following result:—Number of lots, *decrease*, 41; on area of land, *increase*, 7,124*a.* 3*r.* 22½*p.*; on amount received, *increase*, 944*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* On the average price of country land per acre, there was a decrease of 4*s.* 2*d.* in 1871; but on town lots an increase of 9*s.* 3*d.* per acre.

Land leased.

The extent of Crown land leased in 1871 was 1,396,026 acres, being 45,815 acres more than in 1870. The amount received by way of rental in 1871 was 6,147*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*; being less than that in 1870 by 1,063*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*

Gold-fields.

Proceeding to the returns relating to auriferous Crown lands, we find that in 1871 there were *taken up*, mining leases, 89; prospecting claims, 2; machinery areas, 9. In 1870 the corresponding numbers *applied for** were—miners' rights, 1,524; mining leases, 161; prospecting claim, 1.

Some additional returns have been added by the Hon. the Commissioner of Crown Lands, from which I find that on the 31st December there were in force—mining leases, 50; prospecting claims, 3; machinery areas, 10. All miners' rights ceased to be in force on that day.

* The distinction between these terms will probably account for at least a part of the decrease.

The amount received for fees (including surveys) under "The Gold Fields' Regulation Act," in 1871, is stated to have been 1,190*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

Having already dealt with the subject of gold mining under a former head, I need not dwell further on it here.

Agricultural and live stock returns.

The meeting of Parliament having been appointed this year for an earlier date than usual, and the time available for the preparation of the statistics having been by so much curtailed, I found it necessary to proceed with the printing without waiting for the agricultural and live stock returns, the completion of which was delayed by the illness and press of work of the chief district constable at Torquay. They are therefore published as an appendix to this volume.

Acreage.

The acreage of land under the following crops in the two past seasons is shown below :—

Years.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Hay.
1870–1 - -	57,382	7,617	30,946	9,823	33,612
1871–2 - -	63,332	4,275	29,631	8,154	31,578

The extent of cultivated land employed in other ways in those years is thus compared :—

Years.	Gardens and Orchards.	In Green Forage.	In Permanent Artificial Grasses.	Under Bare Fallow.	All other Cultivated Land.	Total Land in Cultivation.
1870–1 -	5,962	2,098	82,197	26,124	64,526	330,257
1871–2 -	5,997	1,218	90,247	27,287	68,472	340,451

Gross produce.

In the produce of most of the crops in 1871-2 there was a serious deficiency as compared with that of the preceding season, the cause of which was the severe drought, especially in the months of April, May, and June. The total rainfall at Hobart Town in 1871 was only 18·25 inches ; the average for 30 years being 22·71 inches.

The following was the yield of the principal crops in the two last years :—

Years.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	tons.	tons.
1870–1 - -	896,881	161,729	691,250	36,028	40,763
1871–2 - - -	847,962	76,812	593,477	22,608	30,891

The subjoined table shows the average produce per acre for those years :—

Years.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	bushels.	bushels.	bshels.	tons.	tons.
1870–1 - -	15·92	22·44	2·79	3·41	1·31
1871–2 - - -	14·09	18·20	19·93	2·88	1·10

The land in hops in 1871-2 shows an increase of 10 acres, and the produce an increase of 39,157 lbs.

TASMANIA.

Prices. The price of wheat in the districts where it is principally grown, as returned for the last year, was generally in excess of that in the preceding year; and that of barley is stated to have been considerably higher at Hobart, Launceston, Westbury, &c., but lower at Deloraine, Evandale, and some other places. Oats were generally lower in the more important districts.

Live stock. According to the returns of live stock, there were, on March 31, 1872—horses, 23,054; horned cattle, 101,540; sheep, 1,305,489; goats, 2,488; mules, 8; asses, 6; pigs, 52,863.

The increases or decreases, as compared with the numbers in the previous year, were—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Horses	375	—
Cattle	81	—
Sheep	—	44,286
Goats	—	193
Mules	2	—
Asses	—	—
Pigs	3,431	—

The return of live stock imported and slaughtered (in which the imports differ somewhat from the Customs returns) shows the following numbers, which are placed in juxtaposition to those of 1870:—

Years.	Sheep.		Cattle.		Pigs.
	Imported.	Slaughtered.	Imported.	Slaughtered.	Slaughtered.
1870	17,515	89,585	1,653	7,196	3,863
1871	11,889	75,500	967	7,101	4,146

The number of pigs slaughtered was in excess of those in the previous year: but in sheep there was a decrease in 1870 to a large extent; and the number of cattle was somewhat smaller.

VI. *Law, Crime, &c.*

Crime. The number of persons tried in the higher courts in 1871 was less by 4·55 per cent. than in 1870.

The number of persons dealt with magisterially was also less than in 1870 by 3·48 per cent.

Litigation. The amount of litigation in 1871 was, however, much greater than in the preceding year; the increase in the number of money cases tried in the higher and lower courts taken together being 35·75 per cent.

Bankruptcies. In the number of bankruptcies there was a remarkable decrease. In 1870, 80 persons were declared, or declared themselves, insolvent; in 1871, under the new law, only 25 were adjudicated bankrupt, or presented petitions for liquidation by arrangement. The difference, being chiefly in those who voluntarily sought protection from their creditors, is doubtless due to the more stringent character of the Act now in force.

Mortgages. The number and amount of mortgages registered in 1870 and 1871 were:—

QUEENSLAND.

STATISTICAL VIEW OF QUEENSLAND, SINCE SEPARATION FROM NEW SOUTH WALES.

Year.	POPULATION.					MORAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROGRESS.						PRODUCTION.																Year.
						Education.		Mechanics Institutes.		Charitable Institutions.		Crown Lands.				Land under Crop.			Live Stock.				Mills, Manufactories, Works, &c.	Mining.						
																								Gold.		Copper.			Coal.		
	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Immigration (excess over Emigration).	Population on 31st December.	Schools.	Scholars.	Subscribers.	Volumes in Library.	No.	Persons Relieved.	Quantity sold by Auction.	Amount Realized.	No. of Squatting Runs.	Area Leased.	Total No. of Acres under Cultivation.	Under Cotton.	Under Sugar-cane.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.		Quantity by Escort.	Value.	Quantity of Ore Raised.	Quantity of Refined Copper produced.	Value.	Quantity Raised.	Value.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Acres.	£	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	ozs.	£	Tons.	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	
1860	1,236	278	478	—	28,056	41	1,890	—	—	6	397	23,587	37,978	1,300	41,027,200	3,353	14	—	23,504	432,890	3,166,802	7,147	13	—	—	—	—	—	12,327	9,244	1860
1861	1,423	320	500	—	34,367	43	2,438	536	4,890	6	491	56,849	94,063	1,727	51,811,200	4,440	395	—	28,983	560,196	4,093,381	7,465	15	—	—	49	1,450	—	14,212	9,920	1861
1862	1,702	570	797	9,805	45,077	54	3,060	779	4,232	6	648	67,873	106,019	1,926	57,200,000	6,067	392	—	36,532	637,296	4,553,353	7,066	20	—	—	—	—	—	24,067	19,253	1862
1863	2,221	774	1,275	14,394	61,640	72	5,452	797	5,369	6	1,075	62,948	108,828	2,545	74,286,080	11,262	2,021	—	45,805	880,392	5,672,400	7,351	23	8,000	30,000	—	—	—	2,400	1,500	1863
1864	2,883	951	1,446	10,959	74,036	89	6,858	753	6,692	7	1,447	139,814	210,725	2,849	84,729,760	12,006	479	93	40,678	882,073	5,665,334	12,066	34	—	—	2,512	89	7,120	25,000	15,000	1864
1865	3,532	1,074	1,733	11,969	87,804	101	9,091	1,133	6,807	7	1,626	145,799	224,403	3,236	98,634,880	14,414	477	449	51,091	848,346	6,594,966	14,888	44	—	—	1,415	449	36,144	30,000	18,750	1865
1866	4,127	1,068	2,362	8,396	96,201	129	10,955	1,216	8,916	12	2,546	113,598	141,325	3,470	106,123,520	24,433	2,884	607	52,311	919,414	7,278,778	13,961	79	21,090	79,143	2,835	604	54,360	39,316	21,049	1866
1867	4,476	935	1,745	917	99,849	148	11,393	1,072	9,068	14	1,763	41,765	49,837	3,619	171,093,920	31,559	8,149	1,995	53,143	940,354	8,665,757	18,142	90	48,213	170,090	3,990	521	39,075	17,988	9,566	1867
1868	4,460	863	1,799	4,287	107,427	167	12,628	816	10,044	15	1,840	57,070	61,085	3,969	179,696,950	39,321	11,453	3,396	66,878	968,279	8,921,784	26,185	125	122,112	429,907	6,571	1,235	92,625	19,611	11,519	1868
1869	4,654	903	1,761	423*	109,897	192	13,472	1,304	15,964	16	2,548	33,287	32,638	3,560	171,903,692	47,034	14,426	5,165	71,530	994,600	8,646,243	29,466	250	130,944	451,352	8,268	1,386	110,960	11,120	5,907	1869
1870	4,905	879	1,645	2,410	115,567	173	18,043	1,271	17,633	16	2,611	83,258	76,563	2,223	106,492,334	52,210	14,674	6,341	83,358	1,076,630	8,163,818	30,992	472	100,634	351,412	8,936	1,523	103,564	22,639	12,311	1870
1871	5,205	970	1,785	3,359	125,146	191	20,737	1,401	18,556	16	2,545	45,707	46,025	2,214	107,284,934	59,969	12,962	9,581	91,910	1,168,235	7,403,334	32,707	611	151,544	504,876	14,503	2,490	174,300	17,000	9,407	1871

Year.	INTERCHANGE.																										Year.
	Postal.					Shipping.				Exports (Seaward) the Produce of Queensland.														Imports.	Exports.	Railways.		Electric Telegraph.		
						Inwards.		Outwards.		Wool.		Tallow.		Gold.		Copper.		Cotton.		Live Stock.		Meat.								
	Letters.	Newspapers.	Packets.	Money Orders Issued and Paid.	Amount of Transactions.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	No.	Value.	Fresh and Preserved (value).	Extract (value).	Timber (value).	Coal (value).	Total Value.	Total Value.	Miles open.	No. of Passengers.	Miles of Wire.	No. of Messages.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	£	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	lbs.	£	Tons.	£	ozs.	£	cwt.	£	lbs.	£	No.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	No.	No.	No.	No.	
1860	279,379	250,365	4,456	—	—	210	45,736	183	39,503	5,007,167	444,188	640	25,628	4,127	14,576	—	50	—	—	—	510	5,356	—	2,442	646	742,023	523,477	—	—	—	—	1860
1861	515,211	427,489	7,652	—	—	251	57,377	234	51,827	6,994,033	613,074	1,247	48,009	1,077	3,928	360	644	—	4	3,103	1,845	1,198	—	2,629	1,870	967,951	709,599	—	—	169	5,678	1861
1862	723,064	606,503	9,430	574	2,238	330	77,312	305	71,981	8,063,612	627,182	1,503	50,979	189	625	5,360	10,332	14,344	1,423	1,320	1,467	510	—	3,066	3,642	1,323,509	793,236	—	—	169	16,833	1862
1863	1,070,690	945,918	17,340	3,698	15,094	389	104,421	353	98,844	10,669,044	776,776	883	30,716	3,936	14,802	173	296	31,557	3,056	659	1,469	258	—	5,482	4,279	1,713,263	888,381	—	—	221	19,219	1863
1864	1,111,892	1,149,057	19,474	6,598	27,736	431	129,687	396	116,702	14,006,789	1,037,663	1,137	32,999	22,037	83,292	29	146	38,730	4,186	274	1,208	229	—	8,039	141	2,267,954	1,247,054	—	—	298	27,246	1864
1865	1,370,708	1,103,318	24,833	9,841	41,592	497	173,227	488	167,153	12,251,841	885,299	1,940	57,155	25,338	92,938	4,424	18,440	145,820	12,197	2,175	6,404	765	—	8,383	3	2,505,559	1,153,464	21	17,297	1,131	47,697	1865
1866	1,545,916	1,135,084	36,021	12,158	51,708	569	197,665	556	195,991	14,346,239	987,659	1,300	53,597	22,916	85,561	8,820	33,918	207,272	19,618	9,139	38,948	14,468	2,800	13,625	32	2,467,907	1,366,491	50	38,569	1,565	64,372	1866
1867	1,447,284	1,120,068	37,674	16,050	74,042	477	149,876	459	145,301	21,554,557	1,462,209	2,733	90,293	49,091	189,248	17,920	66,038	412,941	26,631	461,695	221,533	3,298	23,150	17,802	—	1,747,735	2,198,609	136	18,392	1,752	63,412	1867
1868	1,728,105	1,180,384	46,387	19,310	87,375	511	132,943	478	127,871	18,906,778	1,057,211	3,706	122,544	165,801	593,516	21,769	77,136	1,809,628	68,929	494	2,160	7,903	30,165	16,578	25	1,899,119	2,107,437	160	24,615	1,811	67,111	1868
1869	1,704,670	1,087,345	47,008	21,838	96,020	548	145,213	527	142,802	22,386,650	1,098,149	5,240	166,039	138,221	523,045	24,535	87,268	1,118,899	51,217	2,170	9,902	5,660	30,623	30,241	202	1,804,578	2,166,806	206	26,178	2,182	70,112	1869
1870	1,662,677	1,183,007	42,341	19,923	85,295	476	133,292	456	127,992	20,695,627	1,026,061	4,818	167,230	136,773	489,539	18,505	63,298	1,630,755	73,437	1,757	4,119	16,303	46,720	19,937	—	1,577,339	2,533,732	206	35,853	2,221	81,483	1870
1871	1,792,644	1,134,813	52,021	21,100	88,739	494	143,611	472	139,064	22,339,348	1,158,833	6,209	139,181	171,937	616,907	51,099	174,701	2,602,100	79,317	506	2,373	37,844	42,118	20,216	—	1,562,665	2,760,045	218	37,539	2,614	82,630	1871

THE Colony of Queensland comprises the north-eastern portion of the Continent of Australia—its northern extremity is Cape York, and its southern (on the coast) Point Danger. The one hundred and thirty-eighth degree of longitude is its boundary on the west.

The area of the Colony is 678,600 square miles, and its seaboard extends 2,250 miles.

The Colony is divided into twenty-two Electorates, of which nine may be termed urban, and thirteen country. It has sixteen municipalities, and about forty small towns or townships.

From the returns of the Census of 1871, it appears that, out of the entire population, 47,300 are Australian born (of whom 36,400 were born in the Colony); 26,300 were born in England, 21,000 in Ireland, 8,500 in Scotland, and 8,300 in Germany.

There were only 547 persons returned as suffering from sickness and accident, being at the low rate of only 9 in every 2,000 persons.

The following are the rates of increase during the intervals between each Census:—

1861—1864	2·71 years	104·48 per cent.
1864—1868	4·17 „	62·53 „
1868—1871	3·50 „	20·22 „

Year.	ACCUMULATION.								FINANCE.						Year.
	Banks.						Savings Banks.						Land Orders.		
	Total Liabilities on 31st December.	Note Circulation.	Deposits.	Total Assets on 31st December.	Coin.	Advances.	No. of Depositors.	Balance to Credit on 31st December.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Loans Authorized.	Expenditure on Loan Account.	Issued.	Negotiated.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	No.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1860	332,173	42,765	286,917	574,661	63,843	490,861	163	7,545	178,589	161,503	—	19,384	—	—	1860
1861	390,238	63,104	322,310	730,917	84,916	618,315	242	12,192	238,238	255,180	123,800	43,826	18,575	13,337	1861
1862	442,245	87,103	341,155	888,879	105,268	751,678	489	20,562	295,286	317,026	—	50,290	90,383	51,144	1862
1863	598,941	107,634	472,765	1,235,961	128,632	1,055,989	655	26,789	295,215	355,791	707,436	48,610	166,471	95,607	1863
1864	928,409	137,799	757,153	1,825,782	178,503	1,571,188	876	30,662	369,425	439,034	1,019,000	401,421	114,718	133,031	1864
1865	1,000,924	181,615	770,912	2,281,461	193,017	2,023,207	1,798	56,516	472,451	459,025	1,170,950	685,246	227,796	192,541	1865
1866	905,668	126,957	750,604	2,225,436	218,656	1,906,579	2,466	86,499	490,269	594,130	300,000	965,346	151,154	151,281	1866
1867	1,025.286	125.272	868,816	2,000,558	307,907	1,586,033	3,130	123,158	610,860	661,795	—	693,428	32,726	58,788	1867
1868	1,214,586	167,568	1,018,566	2,051,227	333,062	1,583,817	4,276	220.662	724,854	742,207	—	207,845	41,086	55,308	1868
1869	1,138,639	152,865	961,612	2,002,822	279,238	1,576,747	5,327	300,522	738,218	761,594	—	117,077	52,541	34,710	1869
1870	1,092,053	146,921	923,556	1,725,494	264,872	1,306,769	5,821	332,843	743,058	764,491	765,600	155,256	25,262	43,480	1870
1871	1,436,076	170,601	1,240,696	1,695,310	279,375	1,203,938	6,769	407,134	823,169	787,555	—	135,374	12,745	24,310	1871

The following information as to the population of the Colony is taken from the results of Census taken on the night of the 1st September, 1871:—

Total Population 120,104

	Minors.	Adults.	
Males	28,742	43,025	71,767
Females	27,042	21,295	48,337

Of the 21,295 female adults, all are married, except 2,521; whilst of the 43,025 male adults, 21,534 are unmarried.

The people of Queensland are principally engaged either in pastoral, agricultural, or mining pursuits.

Population of Pastoral Districts	21,790
Population of Settled Districts	98,314

The principal towns are:—

	People.
Brisbane and Suburbs, with	19,413
Rockhampton	5,497
Ipswich	5,092
Toowoomba	3,628
Maryborough	3,542
Warwick	2,228
Dalby	1,647
Clermont	1,222
Townsville	1,140

The largest groups of Gold Digging Populations are at Gympie, with 5,010 people; Ravenswood, 2,497; Neighbourhood of Rockhampton, 1,263; Gilbert, 1,146.

* Excess of departures over arrivals.

HENRY SCOTT,
Registrar-General.

	1870.		1871.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£
By the Registrar of Deeds - -	234	139,138	254	129,336
By the Recorder of Titles - - -	117	46,341	139	41,487
	351	185,479	393	170,823

The business of the Lands Titles Office showed increased activity in the past year, as the following table indicates:— Land Titles Office.

Year.	Number of Transactions.	Value of Property.	Area of Property.
		£	acres.
1870 - - -	584	135,466	90,510
1871 - - -	691	214,515	107,202

The number of grant deeds enrolled in the Supreme Court in 1871 was smaller than that in 1870 by 136. Grant deeds.

VII. *Vital Statistics.*

The number of births, deaths, and marriages registered in 1871 are compared with those in 1870 in the following table:— Births, deaths, and marriages.

Years.	Births.	Deaths.*	Marriages.
1870 - - -	3,054	1,404	670
1871 - - -	3,053	1,355	598

* Besides the deaths registered, there were in 1870 five, and in 1871 eight, unregistered deaths of convicts under sentence, which are included in calculating the ratio.

The ratio per 1,000 of the living population in those years was,—

Years.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
1870 - - -	30·31	13·98	6·65
1871 - - -	29·99	13·39	5·87

The birth and marriage rates were below those of 1870; but since 1857 (the furthest period to which I have carried the comparison), with the single exception of the year 1865, the death-rate has never been so small.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. C. NOWELL,
Government Statistician.

VICTORIA.

No. 7.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF VICTORIA FROM 1861 TO 1870 INCLUSIVE.

Year.	POPULATION.			Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigration.	Emigration.	Flour Mills.	Manufactories, Works, &c.	LAND SALES.		Number of Acres under Cultivation.	LIVE STOCK.			
	Males.	Females.	Persons.								Number of Acres.	Amount realized.		Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
												£					
1861	321,724	220,076	541,800	23,461	10,522	4,434	26,912	35,898	104	429	514,745	623,588	439,895	84,057	628,092	6,239,258	43,480
1862	324,107	230,251	554,358	24,391	10,080	4,525	37,836	38,203	104	603	844,969	910,862	465,430	86,067	576,601	6,764,851	52,991
1863	327,249	244,310	571,559	23,906	9,502	4,227	38,983	34,800	110	716	295,180	450,646	507,798	103,328	675,272	7,115,943	79,655
1864	343,296	258,047	601,343	25,680	8,887	4,554	36,156	21,779	93	612	260,169	522,602	479,463	117,182	640,625	8,406,234	113,530
1865	350,871	270,224	621,095	25,915	10,461	4,497	30,976	25,292	118	785	139,776	295,456	530,196	121,051	621,337	8,835,380	75,869
1866	357,012	279,970	636,982	25,010	12,286	4,253	32,178	27,629	114	872	221,582	380,240	592,915	121,381	598,968	8,833,139	74,708
1867	362,273	289,298	651,571	25,608	11,733	4,490	27,242	25,142	118	990	129,333	214,077	631,207	131,148	650,592	9,532,811	141,522
1868	373,232	301,382	674,614	27,243	10,067	4,692	32,805	25,552	136	1,182	275,649	359,703	712,865	143,934	693,682	9,756,819	136,206
1869	385,561	314,229	699,790	26.040	10,630	4.735	33,570	22,418	149	1,385	725,110	794,543	827,534	161,830	692,518	9,923,663	111,464
1870	398,755	327,844	726,599	27,151	10,420	4,732	32,554	21,087	147	1,437	337,507	463,821	909,015	167,220	721,096	10,761,887	130,946

Year.	SHIPPING.				EXPORTS OF COLONIAL PRODUCE.							Imports. (Total Value.)	Exports. (Total Value.)	Revenue for the service of each Year.	Expenditure for the service of each Year.	SCHOOLS.		Number of Churches, Chapels, &c.	Convictions.
	INWARDS.		OUTWARDS.		GOLD.		WOOL.		TALLOW.		HIDES AND SKINS. (Value)					Number of Schools.	Scholars.		
	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.									
					ozs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	£	£	£	£	£				
1861	1,778	549,195	1,820	540,807	1,967,420	7,869,758	23,923,195	2,095,264	4,208,960	75,784	100,624	13,532,452	13,828,606	2,952,101	3,092,021	882	56,473	989	846
1862	1,715	556,188	1,766	581,892	1,658,285	6,685,192	25,245,778	2,350,956	3,998,904	66,515	130,661	13,487,787	13,039,422	3,269,079	3,039,497	989	65,541	1,137	769
1863	1,739	624,061	1,782	618,052	1,627,066	6,520,957	25,579,886	2,049,491	1,938,708	33,871	106,890	14,118,727	13,566,296	2,774,686	2,882,937	1,019	69,619	1,352	684
1864	1,816	620,200	1,896	641,614	1,545,450	6,206,237	39,871,892	3,250,128	3,882,256	60,230	103,625	14,974,815	13,898,384	2,955,338	2,928,903	947	66,145	1,531	567
1865	1,743	580,973	1,823	599,351	1,543,802	6,190,317	44,270,666	3,315,109	1,396,640	15,566	83,962	13,257,537	13,150,748	3,076,885	2,983,777	1,080	73,599	1,695	675
1866	2,078	649,979	2,203	675,741	1,479,195	5,909,987	42,391,234	3,196,491	320,432	6,599	55,800	14,771,711	12,889,546	3,079,160	3,222,025	1,206	81,229	1,766	639
1867	1,847	593,235	1,955	617,026	1,433,687	5,738,993	51,314,116	3,824,956	2,103,360	34,968	31,458	11,674,080	12,724,427	3,216,317	3,241,818	1,385	91,336	1,874	566
1868	2,067	653,362	2,172	685,207	1,960,713	7,843,197	68,010,591	4,567,182	12,104,960	160,909	33,619	13,320,662	15,593,990	3,230,754	3,189,321	1,430	97,884	1,870	526
1869	2,320	721,274	2,334	730,961	1,700,973	6,804,179	54,431,367	3,363,075	14,259,616	237,084	60,461	13,908,990	13,464,354	3,383,984	3,226,165	1,722	151,844	1,967	486
1870	2,093	663,764	2,187	681,098	1,529,821	6,119,782	52,123,451	3,205,106	22,158,080	358,863	33,649	12,455.758	12,470,014	3,261,883	3,428,382	1,867	154,353	2,134	573

NEW ZEALAND.

No. 8.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

To the Honourable JOHN HALL, Colonial Secretary, &c.

Registrar-General's Office, Wellington,
15th October, 1872.

SIR,

IT having always been my desire and endeavour to have the statistics of the Colony (especially the portions of them having most general interest and practical importance) published at the earliest date at which the very numerous returns required from all parts of the country could be obtained and compiled with due regard to accuracy, and the printing of the Tables could be accomplished, it afforded me much gratification to have ready for presentation to the General Assembly at, or soon after, the commencement of the Session of this year, a larger proportion of the contents of the annual volume than in any previous year.

Previous publication of large portions of this volume.

Following a plan which has been found convenient and acceptable before, sections of the statistics were issued in separate divisions, each containing a series of Tables relating to one branch, as follows:—Division A, The (Estimated) Population on 31st December, 1871; Immigration and Emigration; and Births and Deaths in the year;—Division B, Trade and Interchange, showing, in twenty-five Tables, the particulars as to Shipping, and Imports and Exports (these latter being given in the full details which, in former years, it was not found practicable to issue until the publication of the completed volume);—Division C, Finance;—Division D, The Post Office and the Telegraph Departments;—and Division E, Meteorology. There was also presented a report, with Tables, showing the agricultural statistics of the Colony in February of this year (1872), which I refer to here, as it is added in the form of an Appendix to the present volume.

These several series of Tables, it may be remarked, were not abstracts or selections from the intended contents of the volume, "in anticipation" of which they were issued, but each series contained the whole of the Tables on the branch of the statistics to which it related, just as they appear in this volume, the contents of which are a reproduction of those Tables, with the addition of such Tables on other subjects as were requisite to make up, in the usual manner, the completed volume of "Statistics of New Zealand for 1871," which I have now the honour to present.

Population.

The total (estimated) population on the 31st December, 1871, exclusive of aboriginal natives, was 266,986, viz. 156,431 males, and 110,555 females, being an increase on the numbers, according to the

Table I. Population.

NEW ZEALAND.

Census of 27th February, of 10,593, viz. 6,075 males, and 4,518 females—the actual population on 27th February, 1871, according to the Census, having been 256,393, viz. 150,356 males, and 106,037 females.

The excess of registered births over registered deaths in the year 1871 was 7,950; and the excess of immigration over emigration, 4,786; together making a net increase of 12,736 persons,—viz. 7,260 males, and 5,476 females. The following summary will show the proportions for the several quarters of the year;—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
FIRST QUARTER.			
Excess of births over deaths during first quarter -	873	1,036	1,909
Increase from excess of immigration over emigration during first quarter - - - - - - - -	904	402	1,306
Increase during first quarter - -	1,777	1,438	3,215
SECOND QUARTER.			
Excess of births over deaths during second quarter -	978	983	1,961
Increase from excess of immigration over emigration during second quarter - - - - - - -	117	43	160
Increase during six months - - -	2,872	2,464	5,336
THIRD QUARTER.			
Excess of births over deaths during third quarter -	1,016	1,128	2,144
Increase from excess of immigration over emigration during third quarter - - - - - - - -	1,782	398	2,180
Increase during nine months - -	5,670	3,990	9,660
FOURTH QUARTER.			
Excess of births over deaths during fourth quarter -	908	1,028	1,936
Increase from excess of immigration over emigration during fourth quarter - - - - - - -	682	458	1,140
Total increase during 1871 - - -	7,260	5,476	12,736

Immigration and Emigration.

Tables II., III. Immigration.

The immigration (over seas) to New Zealand in 1871 amounted to 10,083 persons, of whom 7,526 were males, and 2,557 females. Of the males, 6,892 were adults, and 634 children; of the females, 2,066 were adults, and 491 children.

Emigration.

The emigration (over seas) from the Colony amounted to 5,297 persons, of whom 4,041 were males, and 1,256 females. Of the males, 3,650 were adults, and 391 children; of the females, 938 were adults, and 318 children.

Net excess.

The net excess of immigration over emigration in 1871 was 4,786, being 1,209 more than the net excess in 1870.

Taking the divisions of the Colony separately, the excesses of immigration over emigration in 1871 were,—in the Province of Auckland, 638; in the Province of Wellington, 446; in the Province of Nelson, 134; in the Province of Canterbury, 818;

and in the Province of Otago, 3,106. On the other hand, in the Province of Hawke's Bay and in the County of Westland, the emigration was in excess of the immigration,—Hawke's Bay, 15; Westland, 341. NEW ZEALAND.

The following figures show the immigration and emigration in 1871, classified according to the countries from which the immigrants arrived, and to which the emigrants went:— Countries.

IMMIGRATION.

Countries.	M.	F.	Total.
United Kingdom	1,768	1,368	3,136
Australian Colonies	2,925	1,111	4,036
Other British Ports	2,388	—	2,388
Foreign States	445	78	523

EMIGRATION.

United Kingdom	413	264	677
Australian Colonies	2,990	812	3,802
Other British Ports	118	3	121
Foreign States	520	177	697

From these figures it will be seen that the excess of immigration over emigration, viewed in relation to countries, was,—United Kingdom, 2,459; Australian Colonies, 234; and other British ports, 2,267. While, on the other hand, there was an excess of emigration over immigration to foreign States amounting to 174.

Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

The total number of births registered in New Zealand during the year 1871 was 10,592,—viz. 5,410 males, and 5,182 females. The total in 1870 was 10,277,—viz. 5,240 males, and 5,037 females. The increase in 1871 was therefore 315,—viz. 170 males, and 145 females. The returns, it will be remembered, show, not the births which have actually occurred, but the births which have been registered during the specified periods. Tables IV., V. Births.

The total number of deaths registered in 1871 was 2,642,—viz. 1,635 males, and 1,007 females. The total in 1870 was 2,703,—viz. 1,595 males, and 1,108 females. There appears, therefore, in 1871, as compared with 1870, a decrease of 61 on the whole number of persons,—viz. an increase of 40 on the males, and a decrease of 101 on the females. Deaths.

Of the deaths in 1871,—882 (viz. 500 males, and 382 females) were under one year of age; 141 (viz. 81 males, and 60 females) one and under two years; 117 (viz. 65 males, and 52 females) two and under five years, making a total of 1,140 (viz. 646 males, and 494 females), or 43·14 per cent. of the whole, under five years.

The general total of deaths includes 107 (viz. 92 males, and 15 females), or 4·04 per cent. of the whole, from drowning, and 200 (viz. 153 males, and 47 females), or 7·57 per cent. of the whole, from various other external causes;—making a total of 307 (viz. 245

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males, and 62 females) from such causes, being 11·61 per cent. of the deaths during the year.

The proportions of births and deaths to every thousand persons living in each of the last twelve years are shown approximately in the following Table :—

Year.	Estimated Population at Middle of Year.	Births.		Deaths.	
		No. Registered in Year.	Ratio per 1,000 Living.	No. Registered in Year.	Ratio per 1,000 Living.
1860	76,390	3,146	41·18	1,091	14·28
1861	89,323	3,441	38·52	1,109	12·41
1862	112,416	4,064	36·15	1,231	10·95
1863	144,930	5,115	35·29	1,983	13·68
1864	168,833	6,501	38·50	2,921	17·30
1865	182,113	7,490	41·12	2,757	15·13
1866	197,360	8,466	42·89	2,540	12·86
1867	211,391	8,918	42·18	2,702	12·78
1868	222,825	9,391	42·14	2,662	11·94
1869	231,934	9,718	41·90	2,721	11·73
1870	242,824	10,277	42·32	2,703	11·13
1871	260,630	10,592	40·64	2,642	10·13

These figures show, for 1871, one birth to every twenty-four and a half, and one death to every ninety-eight and a half persons living. The average for the twelve years is one birth to every twenty-four and a half, and one death to every seventy-nine persons.

The excess of births over deaths in 1871 was 7,950, viz. 3,775 males, and 4,175 females. The total excess of registered births over registered deaths in ten years—1862 to 1871 inclusive—was 55,670, viz. 25,943 males, and 29,727 females.

Marriages, Tables VI., VII.

The total number of marriages in New Zealand in 1871 was 1,864, being 13 more than in 1870. Of these, 1,694 were by ministers of religion, and 170 by registrars. The respective numbers solemnized by ministers of the several religious bodies were as follow :—United Church of England and Ireland, 422 ; Free Church of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church of Otago and Southland, and Presbyterian Congregations, 656 ; Roman Catholic Church, 281 ; Wesleyan Methodist Society, 215 ; Congregational Independents, 29 ; Baptists, 40 ; Primitive Methodists, 32 ; Lutheran Church, 3 ; United Methodist Free Churches, 10 ; Christian Brethren, 5 ; and no denomination specified, 4.

The Tables show the numbers of marriages in the respective provinces in each year since "The Marriage Act, 1854," came into operation, and the respective numbers solemnized by officiating ministers and by registrars in each year within that period.

Trade and Interchange.

Tables VIII., IX.

The information relating to shipping occupies eight Tables. The first two show the numbers, tonnage, and crews of vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards at the several ports of New Zealand during the year 1871 :—The total inwards was 729 vessels, of 274,643 tonnage, being a decrease, as compared with 1870, of 27 in the number of vessels, but an increase of 1,492 in the tonnage. The total outwards was 709 vessels, of 265,618 tonnage, being a

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decrease, as compared with 1870, of 57 in the number of vessels, but an increase of 211 in the tonnage.

Tables X., XI.

The next two Tables show vessels, tonnage, and crews, classified according to "Countries whence Arrived," and "Countries for which Cleared."

Arrived from.

Of the total of 729 vessels inwards, 52, of 39,725 tonnage, arrived from the United Kingdom; 561, of 189,753 tonnage from the Australian Colonies and other British possessions; and 116, of 45,165 tonnage, from foreign countries (including the southern whale fisheries). Of the total of 709 vessels outwards, 56, of 41,849 tonnage, cleared for the United Kingdom; 533, of 179,652 tonnage, for the Australian Colonies and other British possessions; and 120, of 44,117 tonnage, for foreign countries (including the southern whale fisheries).

Cleared for.

Tables XII., XIII.

The two following Tables show the "nationality" of the vessels inwards and outwards.

Nationality of vessels.

Of the 729 vessels inwards, 100, of 61,296 tonnage, were British; 569, of 167,276 tonnage, Colonial; 49, of 44,250 tonnage, American; 7, of 1,141 tonnage, French; 2, of 273 tonnage, German; 1, of 356 tonnage, Danish; and 1, of 51 tonnage, Fijian. Of the 709 vessels outwards, 87, of 55,899 tonnage were British; 567, of 166,927 tonnage, Colonial; 47, of 41,838 tonnage, American; 5, of 325 tonnage, French; 2, of 273 tonnage, German; and 1, of 356 tonnage, Danish.

Registered vessels. Tables XXX., XXXA.

It is convenient to notice here the registered vessels belonging to ports in New Zealand, although the Tables which relate to them are placed in a subsequent part of the volume.

The number of registered vessels belonging to ports in New Zealand on the 31st December, 1871, was 371, of 27,107 tonnage (viz. 312 sailing vessels, of 21,568 tonnage, and 59 steam vessels, of 5,529 tonnage), against 384 vessels, of 26,733 tonnage on the 31st December, 1870. Of these, 185 vessels, of 9,826 tonnage, belonged to the port of Auckland; 9, of 50 tonnage, to the port of Napier; 26, of 4,753 tonnage, to the port of Wellington; 27, of 1,183 tonnage, to the port of Nelson; 53, of 4,749 tonnage, to the port of Lyttelton; 64, of 5,906 tonnage to the port of Dunedin; and 7, of 189 tonnage, to the port of Invercargill.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of the imports of the Colony in 1871 was 4,078,193*l.*, against 4,639,015*l.* in 1870, being a decrease of 560,822*l.*, or 12·08 per cent.

Tables XIV.–XXIX.

The following figures show the increase or decrease in each of the provinces (and the county of Westland) in 1871, as compared with 1870:—

Imports. Total value in 1871 as compared with 1870.

		£		
Auckland	decrease,	340,695,	or 25·81	per cent.
Taranaki	„	4,280,	„ 26·42	„
Wellington	„	61,029,	„ 12·35	„
Hawke's Bay	„	29,117,	„ 30·59	„
Nelson	increase,	17,218,	„ 5·92	„
Marlborough	„	1,908,	„ 21·08	„
Canterbury	„	55,429,	„ 10·85	„
Westland	decrease,	42,605,	„ 10·38	„
Otago (including Southland)	„	157,655,	„ 10·55	„

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A comparison of the total value of imports in 1870 and 1871, according to the countries whence they were received, gives the following results:—

	1870.	1871.		
	£	£		£
United Kingdom -	2,685,736	1,808,636	decrease	877,100
British Colonies -	1,759,872	2,112,063	increase	352,191
Foreign States - -	193,407	157,494	decrease	35,913
Totals - -	4,639,015	4,078,193	decrease	560,822

Exports. Total value in 1871 as compared with 1870.

The total value of the exports from New Zealand in 1871 was 5,282,084*l.*, against 4,822,756*l.* in 1870, being an increase in 1871 of 459,328*l.*, or 9·52 per cent. Excluding the value of imported goods re-exported from the Colony, the total value of exports of New Zealand produce and manufactures in 1871 amounted to 5,171,104*l.*, against 4,544,682*l.* in 1870, being an increase of 626,422*l.*, or 13·78 per cent.

Gold. Table XX.

The two very important exports—gold and wool—demand more particular notice here.

The total value of the gold exported from New Zealand in 1871 was 2,787,520*l.*, produced by the several gold fields to the following amounts, viz. Auckland, 1,188,708*l.*; Marlborough, 7,468*l.*; Nelson, 439,936*l.*; county of Westland, 531,648; Otago, 619,760*l.*

The total value of gold exported in 1870 was 2,157,585*l.* There appears therefore a net increase in 1871 amounting to 629,935*l.* The increase in amount occurred in Auckland and Marlborough, while in Nelson, Wellington, Westland, and Otago there was a decrease. The exact amount of increase or decrease in each case is shown in the following figures:—

VALUE of GOLD EXPORTED in 1870 and in 1871 respectively.

	1870.	1871.	Whether Increase or Decrease.	Amount of Increase or Decrease.
	£	£		£
Produce of the Gold Fields in the Province of Auckland - - -	319,146	1,188,708	Increase	869,562
Ditto Province of Marlborough - -	7,408	7,468	Increase	60
Ditto „ Nelson - - -	591,510	439,936	Decrease	151,574
Ditto „ Wellington - -	120	—	Decrease	120
Ditto County of Westland- - -	578,707	531,648	Decrease	47,059
Ditto Province of Otago (including Southland) - - - - -	660,694	619,760	Decrease	40,934
	2,157,585	2,787,520	Increase	629,935

The total quantity of gold exported from New Zealand from the 1st April, 1857, to the 31st December, 1871, was 6,272,878 oz.; the total value, 24,352,999*l.*

Wool. Table XXVIII.

The total quantity of wool exported in 1871 was 37,793,734 lbs., against 37,039,763 lbs. in 1870, being an increase of 753,971 lbs. The total value stated for 1871 was 1,606,144*l.*, against 1,703,944*l.* in 1870, showing a decrease of 97,800*l.*, or 5·73 per cent.

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The information thus summarized will be found in considerable detail in the Tables referred to in the margin. Tables XIV. and XV. show the total value of imports and exports respectively at the several ports of New Zealand in 1871. Tables XVI. and XVII. exhibit, in a condensed form, the total value of imports and exports for the Colony for each year from 1856 to 1871 inclusive; distinguishing the provinces, and the respective amounts of imports from, and exports to, the United Kingdom, the British Colonies, and Foreign States. Tables XVIII. and XIX. have been prepared so as to exhibit details of general imports and exports in the greatly enlarged form in which they were presented for the first time in the statistical volume for 1868; by which they are brought into closer resemblance to the statistical Tables issued by the Board of Trade, and to those published in the several Australian Colonies, and means are afforded for forming an accurate judgment of the nature and extent of the interchange which is carried on between New Zealand and other countries. Table XIXA. gives additional information, by showing the quantity and value of the various articles exported from each of the ports in New Zealand during the year 1871.

Tables XIV.–XVII., and XX.–XXIX.

Tables XVIII., XIX.

Table XIXA.

Ten Tables (XX.–XXIX.) contain summaries showing compendiously the totals of various articles of export in 1871, compared with previous years. Separate tables of this description are appropriated to gold, grain, Kauri gum, oil, potatoes, timber, wool, and hides and skins.

Tables XX.–XXIX.

Revenue of the Colony.

The Customs revenue in 1871 amounted to 731,883*l.*, against 765,930*l.* in 1870, being a decrease of 34,047*l.*, or 4·44 per cent.

Tables XXXI.–XXXVII. Customs revenue.

The following figures show the comparative amounts realized by this branch of the revenue during the ten years 1862 to 1871 inclusive:—

	£		£	
1862 -	399,436	being an increase of	138,573,	or 53·12 per cent.
1863 -	592,050	„ „	192,614,	„ 48·22 „
1864 -	592,346	„ „	296,	„ 0·05 „
1865 -	730,008	„ „	137,662,	„ 23·24 „
1866 -	844,267	„ „	114,259,	„ 15·65 „
1867 -	843,997	being a decrease of	270,	„ 0·03 „
1868 -	788,829	„ „	55,168,	„ 6·53 „
1869 -	823,511	being an increase of	34,682,	„ 4·39 „
1870 -	765,930	being a decrease of	57.581,	„ 6·99 „
1871 -	731,883	„ „	34,047,	„ 4·44 „

Ordinary revenue.

The total ordinary revenue in 1871 amounted to 921,672*l.*, against 960,368*l.* in 1870, being a decrease of 38,696*l.*, or 4·02 per cent.

Territorial revenue.

The total territorial revenue in 1871 amounted to 377,699*l*, against 327,589*l.* in 1870, being an increase of 50,110*l.*, or 15·29 per cent.

General total.

The general total of the revenue (both ordinary and territorial) amounted in 1871 to 1,299,371*l.*, against 1,287,957*l.* in 1870, being an increase of 11,414*l.*, or 0·88 per cent.

Comparison of revenue in 1870 and 1871.

The subjoined table exhibits a comparative view of the revenue, ordinary and territorial, in the several provinces in 1870 and 1871,

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specifying the centesimal increase or decrease in each province in the latter year:—

	Ordinary Revenue.			Territorial Revenue.			Total Ordinary and Territorial.		
	1870.	1871.	Centesimal Increase or Decrease.	1870.	1871.	Centesimal Increase or Decrease.	1870.	1871.	Centesimal Increase or Decrease.
Provinces—	£	£		£	£		£	£	
Auckland -	222,565	207,909	*D.* 6·58	23,454	49,329	*I.* 110·32	246,019	257,238	*I.* 4·56
Taranaki -	8,241	7,470	*D.* 9·35	97	55	*D.* 43·29	8,338	7,525	*D.* 9·75
Wellington	96,692	90,288	*D.* 6·62	6,529	14,411	*I.* 120·72	103,221	104,699	*I.* 1·43
Hawke's Bay	33,463	29,217	*D.* 12·68	5,771	6,402	*I.* 10·93	39,234	35,619	*D.* 9·21
Nelson -	86,424	80,894	*D.* 6·39	34,306	30,693	*D.* 10·53	120,730	111,587	*D.* 7·57
Marlborough	10,611	9,958	*D.* 6·15	5,336	5,140	*D.* 3·67	15,947	15,098	*D.* 5·32
Canterbury	128,933	133,708	*I.* 3·70	68,490	73,089	*I.* 6·71	197,423	206,797	*I.* 4·74
County—									
Westland -	86,508	78,926	*D.* 8·76	36,619	32,937	*D.* 10·05	123,127	111,863	*D.* 9·14
Province—									
Otago (including Southland)	286,761	283,212	*D.* 1·23	146,987	165,410	*I.* 12·53	433,748	448,622	*I.* 3·42
Chatham Islands -	170	90	*D.* 47·05	—	233	*I.* 233·00	170	323	*I.* 90·00
	960,368	921,672	*D.* 4·02	327,589	377,699	*I.* 15·29	1,287,957	1,299,371	*I.* 0·88

The territorial revenue, stated above, includes the duty on gold exported and the sums received for miners' rights and gold fields fees. The component parts of the total given as "Territorial Revenue" in each of the gold-producing provinces for 1871, are as follow:—Revenue collected by receivers of land revenue — Auckland, 440*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Nelson, 5,197*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*; Marlborough, 4,656*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*; Westland, 4,513*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*; and Otago, 126,547*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* Duty on gold exported and miners' rights and gold fields fees—Auckland, 45,647*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*; Nelson, 25,495*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*; Marlborough, 483*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*; Westland, 28,423*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.*; and Otago, 38,858*l.* 2*s.* Also duty and fees, native lands courts—Auckland, 3,214*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*; Wellington, 752*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*; Hawke's Bay, 3,707*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*; Canterbury, 26*l.*; Otago, 4*l.*; and Chatham Islands, 232*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*

Income and expenditure. Tables XXXII., XXXIII., XXXIV.

The income and expenditure of the Colony, and of the provinces, are shown in three Tables.* The first of these (No. XXXII.) presents, on opposite pages, a view of the income and the expenditure, in their various branches, as relating to the colonial treasury and the provincial treasuries taken *collectively*. Two succeeding Tables show the income and expenditure of the several provinces (and of the county of Westland) taken *separately*. A Table follows which shows in detail the receipts and disbursements by the receivers of land revenue during the year.

Table XXXV.

Debt of the general and provincial governments. Tables XXXVI., XXXVIA.

Information relating to the debt of the general and provincial Governments of New Zealand, authorized by Acts or Ordinances, up to the 31st of December, 1871, is given in two tables, occupying seven pages. The first (No. XXXVI.) shows the following particulars:—The total amount authorized to be borrowed, specifying by what Government, and under what authority; the total amount raised on the 31st December, 1871, specifying the amount of debentures in circulation, the rate of interest, and when the respective debentures are redeemable; also, the rate of sinking fund the amount of sinking

fund accrued, and the manner in which it has been invested. But the debt of the Colony owing by the General and Provincial Governments respectively being shown in No. XXXVI. as the loans were authorized by each, and subsequent legislation and the creation of new provinces having distributed the liability in other proportions, another statement is given in No. XXXVIA. showing the actual liability of each Government as it existed on the 31st of December, 1871. Explanatory remarks are added to each of the Tables, to which it will be necessary to refer for particulars of specific information on various details.

It will be seen that, according to No. XXXVI., the total amount of debentures in circulation on the 31st December, 1871, was 8,900,991*l.*, and that the total amount of sinking fund accrued was 503,544*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* The total annual charge for interest and sinking fund on the 31st December, 1871, was 551,553*l* 12*s.* 8*d.*, against 479,761*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* on the 31st December, 1870.

The proportions of the debt of the Colony, owing by the general and provincial Governments respectively, together with the annual charge for interest and sinking fund to which each Government was liable on the 31st December, 1871, were as follows, viz.:—

The General Government—Debt, 5,493,316*l.*; annual charge, 335,988*l* 7*s.* 8*d.*: province of Auckland, debt, 682,150*l.*; annual charge, 41,561*l.*: province of Taranaki, debt, 31,000*l.*; annual charge, 1,860*l.*: province of Wellington, debt, 261,956*l.* 10*s.*; annual charge, 16,250*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*: province of Hawke's Bay, debt, 113,343*l.* 10*s.*; annual charge, 6,927*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*: province of Nelson, debt, 81,422*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*; annual charge, 5,453*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*: province of Marlborough, debt, 13,527*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.*; annual charge, 811*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*: province of Canterbury, debt, 683,319*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*; annual charge, 42,282*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*: county of Westland, debt, 207,430*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*; annual charge, 13,016*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*: province of Otago (including former province of Southland), debt, 1,333,525*l.*; annual charge, 87,402*l.* 5*s.*

Waste Lands, Sales, &c.

Tables XXXVIII., XXXIX., XL.

The Tables (like those of the last four years) contain information extending to the Crown lands held under leases. No. XXXVIII. shows the numbers of acres of waste lands sold in the several provinces (and the county of Westland) in 1871, with the rates per acre, and other particulars. No. XXXIX. shows the numbers of acres absolutely disposed of without sale to immigrants; to naval and military settlers, under New Zealand Settlements Acts, &c.; reserves granted for public purposes, under Public Reserves Act, 1854; to Europeans or natives, under Waste Lands Act, 1858, Crown Grants Act (No. 2), 1862, Native Reserves Acts, &c.; to natives by grants under 'Native Lands Acts, 1865, &c.; and in satisfaction of land scrip, or otherwise not specified. No. XL. shows the Crown lands held under depasturing or other leases (except for gold mining), distinguishing the leases for depasturing purposes, and for mineral or other purposes, and the respective numbers of acres and amounts of rents and assessments.

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Banks.

Table XLI. A similar Table to that introduced for the first time in the statistical volume for 1868, and again prepared by the Assistant Treasurer, shows the average liabilities and assets of the several banks in New Zealand in respect of their transactions within the Colony during the year 1871, together with their capital and profits. The liabilities and assets are the averages of the amounts shown in the four quarterly returns furnished by the respective banks, and published in the 'New Zealand Gazette,' according to the provisions of "The Bankers' Returns Act, 1858." The particulars as to capital and profit are taken from the returns for the last quarter of the year, and include for each bank the capital paid up to the 31st December, 1871; the rate per annum of last dividend declared to shareholders; the amount of last dividend declared; and the amount of reserved profits at the time of declaring such dividend. The banks included in the Table are the Bank of Australasia, the Bank of New South Wales, the Bank of New Zealand, the Bank of Otago (Limited), and the Union Bank of Australia. The aggregate amounts shown for these banks are:—Total average liabilities, 3,988,400*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*; total average assets, 5,871,888*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*; total capital paid up, 31st December, 1871, 4,281,529*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*; total amount of last dividends, 231,448*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*; and total amouut of reserved profits at the time of declaring such dividends, 1,346,190*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* The distribution of these totals amongst the respective banks will be found in the Table.

Joint Stock Companies.

Table XLII. Fifty-two joint stock companies were incorporated in the Colony during the year 1871—viz. 38 in the province of Auckland; 1 in the province of Taranaki; 5 in the province of Wellington; 1 in the province of Nelson; 1 in the province of Marlborough; 1 in the province of Canterbury; 1 in the county of Westland; and 4 in the province of Otago. The total number of companies incorporated under "The Joint Stock Companies Act, 1860," is 206—viz. 1 in 1861; 13 in 1862; 19 in 1863; 12 in 1864; 15 in 1865; 18 in 1866; 13 in 1867; 11 in 1868; 25 in 1869; 27 in 1870; and 52 in 1871. Of the total number during the whole period, 97 were in the province of Auckland; 11 in the province of Taranaki; 4 in the province of Hawke's Bay; 16 in the province of Wellington; 5 in the province of Nelson; 2 in the province of Marlborough; 31 in the province of Canterbury; 4 in the county of Westland; and 36 in the province of Otago. Particulars relating to all these companies similar to those given in the present Table for 1871 may be found in the statistical volumes for the previous years.

Prices of Provisions and Live Stock.

Table XLIII. A Table prepared on the same plan as in former years shows the average prices of provisions and of live stock in the several provinces (and in the county of Westland) in 1871.

Post Office.

The total numbers of letters received in New Zealand during the year 1871, were,—from places without the Colony, 508,314, against 483,994 in 1870; and from places within the colony, 2,788,676, against 2,534,938 in 1870; making a general total of 3,296,990, against 3,018,932 in 1870, being an increase of 278,058. . . . The total numbers of letters despatched were,—to places without the Colony, 473,896, against 466,235 in 1870, and to places within the Colony, 2,310,811, against 2,160,712 in 1870, making a general total of 2,784,707, against 2,626,947 in 1870, being an increase of 157,760.

Letters received and despatched. Tables XLIV., XLV.

The total numbers of newspapers received in 1871 were,—from places without the Colony, 1,082,522, against 1,174,544 in 1870; and from places within the Colony, 1,226,112, against 1,092,390 in 1870; making a general total of 2,308,634, against 2,266,934 in 1870, being an increase of 41,700. . . . The total numbers of newspapers despatched were,—to places without the Colony, 325,180, against 349,737 in 1870; and to places within the Colony, 1,545,970, against 1,272,991 in 1870; making a general total of 1,871,150, against 1,622,728 in 1870, being an increase of 248,422.

Newspapers received and despatched. Tables XLVI., XLVII.

The total amount of the postal revenue in 1871 was 70,249*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*, against 55,780*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.* in 1870, being an increase of 14,469*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*, or 25·93 per cent.

Postal revenue. Table XLVIII.

The total number of money orders issued in New Zealand in 1871 was 36,291, against 31,864 in 1870, being an increase of 4,427. The total amount of these orders in 1871 was 157,397*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*, against 140,454*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* in 1870, being an increase of 16,943*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* The total number of money orders paid in New Zealand in 1871 was 23,228, against 19,221 in 1870, being an increase of 4,007. The total amount of these orders in 1871 was 100,724*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.*, against 84,823*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* in 1870, being an increase of 15,900*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*

Money orders. Table XLIX.

An additional Table shows in detail the number and amount of money orders issued and paid at each money order office in New Zealand, during the year 1871.

Table L.

Savings Banks.

Three Tables contain information relating to savings banks, viz. 2 for the Post Office savings banks, and 1 for the savings banks which were in operation before the establishment of those in connection with the Post Office.

Tables LI., LII., LIII.

At the close of the year 1871, the number of Post Office savings banks in the Colony was 81, being an increase of 11, as compared with 1870. Of these, 18 were in the province of Auckland; 2 in the province of Taranaki; 4 in the province of Hawke's Bay; 9 in the province of Wellington; 4 in the province of Marlborough; 5 in the province of Nelson; 3 in the county of Westland; 9 in the province of Canterbury; 27 in the province of Otago (including Southland). Within the year, 4,615 new accounts were opened, and the total deposits (including additions to open accounts) amounted to

Post Office savings banks. Tables LI., LII.

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312,338*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* The total amount of principal withdrawn during the year was 260,222*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* Taking into account the whole period from the commencement of the system in 1867 to the 31st December, 1871, there remained on the latter date, including principal and interest, a total balance to the credit of depositors, amounting to 357,654*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*

Table No. LI. contains a summary of these transactions, including a comparison with the years 1870, 1869, 1868, 1867, and No. LII. shows a detailed statement of the transactions at each of the banks throughout the Colony.

Previously existing savings banks.

Table LIII.

The number of savings banks other than those connected with the Post Office was 8. The total number of persons having deposits in these banks on the 31st December, 1871, was 3,726 (of whom 24 were Maories). The total deposits during the year amounted to 49,924*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*; and the total of the sums withdrawn to 49,973*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* The total amount to the credit of depositors at the end of the year was 97,312*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*

Taking both classes of savings banks together, there was on the 31st December, 1871, an aggregate amount of 454,967*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* to the credit of depositors, being 66,162*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* more than the aggregate amount at the end of the year 1870.

Telegraph.

Telegraph.

Table LIV.

Stations and lines:

The telegraph stations in the Colony in December, 1871, numbered 76, being 13 more than in December, 1870; 24 more than in December, 1869; and 28 more than in 1868; the number of miles of lines was 2,015, being 128 more than in 1870, 404 more than in 1869, 544 more than in 1868, 1,301 more than in 1867, and 1,316 more than in 1866: the number of miles of wire was 3,287, being 128 more than in 1870, 510 more than in 1869, 650 more than in 1868, 1,840 more than in 1867, and 1,889 more than in 1866; the

and numbers of telegrams.

aggregate number of telegrams (private and Government) was 369,085, against 238,195 in 1870, 173,746 in 1869, 134,647 in 1868, 87,436 in 1867, and 48,231 in 1866.

Public Schools.

Table LV.

The returns for public schools in 1871 have been furnished, as in former years, for the December quarter. The information for the province of Taranaki is imperfect, for reasons which are explained in notes to the Table. The figures for the other provinces (excluding Taranaki) show, *collectively taken*, increases of 48 schools, 83 teachers, and 2,854 pupils on the books in the December quarter, 1871, as compared with the December quarter, 1870. The particulars for each province will, of course, be found in the Table.

Legal and Criminal Statistics.

Tables LVI.–LXIXA.

Tables LVI. to LXIXA. inclusive are occupied by the legal and criminal statistics of the Colony in 1871. Of these, three (Nos. LVI. to LVIII.) relate to the Supreme Court, showing the criminal,

the civil, and the bankruptcy cases; and three (Nos. LIX. to LXI.) to the district courts, showing the same classes of cases respectively. Seven tables (Nos. LXII. to LXVIII.), are occupied by the cases brought before the resident magistrates' and magistrates' courts, distinguishing the cases in which Europeans, or Maories, or both, were concerned; a summary (No. LXIV.) showing the number of convictions in the resident magistrates' and magistrates' courts, for each of the offences of most frequent occurrence in the several years from 1856 to 1871 inclusive. The last Table but one of this series (No. LXIX.) shows the numbers of prisoners committed to gaol in 1871; specifying the sexes, the causes of imprisonment, the native countries, the classes (as to social position), and the degrees of education of the prisoners. The total number committed in 1871 was 3,391 (viz. 2,660 males, and 731 females), against 3,480 (viz. 2,770 males, and 710 females) in 1870. It thus appears that there was a net decrease of 89 in 1871, as compared with 1870. No. LXIXA. (a newly introduced Table) adds a variety of information relating to previous convictions, terms of imprisonment, and sickness or mortality amongst prisoners during 1871. NEW ZEALAND.

The aggregate number of convictions during the year 1871 in the supreme, the district, and the resident magistrates' and magistrates' courts, was 11,806, against 12,330 in 1870, and 12,086 in 1869. It should be remarked, however, that these totals were to a great extent made up by convictions for comparatively light offences—drunkenness alone contributing 4,751 to the total for 1871, 4,700 to that for 1870, and 4,429 to that for 1869. Convictions.

The aggregate number of civil cases commenced in the supreme and the district courts in 1871 was 1,484, against 1,843 in 1870, and 1,527 in 1869. Civil cases.

In the resident magistrates' and magistrates' courts in 1871, the total number of civil cases was 19,440, against 20,982 in 1870, and 20,537 in 1869. The total amount sued for in these courts in 1871 was 217,338*l.*, against 243,285*l.* in 1870, and 257,486*l.* in 1869; and the total amount for which judgment was given in 1871 was 101,526*l.*, against 119,426*l.* in 1870, and 117,999*l.* in 1869.

The bankruptcy cases brought before the Supreme Court and the district courts respectively are shown in the Tables Nos. LVIII. and LXI. Taking the courts together, the totals for 1871 were as follow:—Number of declarations of insolvency filed 637, against 1,030 in 1870; number of petitions 509, against 742 in 1870. Of the cases before the courts, there were withdrawn, dismissed, or lapsed, 118, against 286 in 1870: changed from bankruptcy to arrangement 7, against 15 in 1870: debtors discharged by the court, 328 immediately, with 75 cases suspended, against 483 immediately, and 87 suspended in 1870: number of deeds of arrangement under Part XVIII. of the Bankruptcy Act, 100, against 175 in 1870. Bankruptcy.

Meteorology.

The meteorological Tables for 1871 have, as before, been prepared under the direction of Dr. Hector, inspector of meteorological stations in New Zealand, and the information which they contain is presented Tables LXX., LXXI.

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in the same form as in the last volume, namely, as forming an integral part of the volume to which this information makes so interesting and valuable an addition.

The Table No. LXX. exhibits in a summary form a comparative view of climate as observed at the several meteorological stations in New Zealand during the year 1871; and No. LXXI. shows, in detail, the observations at the respective stations. For convenience of arrangement, only one number is given to the successive sheets containing these observations, but the Tables relating to the several stations are distinguished by separate letters, which being shown in the table of contents prefixed to the volume, will, it is anticipated, prevent any delay or difficulty in referring to any particular station respecting which information may be desired. The stations included are (*a.*) Mongonui; (*b.*) Auckland; (*c.*) Taranaki; (*d.*) Napier; (*e.*) Wellington; (*f.*) Nelson; (*g.*) Christchurch; (*h.*) Bealey; (*i.*) Hokitika; (*j.*) Dunedin; and (*k.*) Southland.

Agricultural Statistics.—February, 1872.

Although this volume properly belongs to the year 1871, it will, I have no doubt, be generally acceptable to have added to it the agricultural statistics of the Colony, as ascertained in February, 1872, under the authority of "The Census Acts Amendment Act, 1867." I accordingly give, as an appendix to the volume, a special report and a series of Tables, which were presented together to the general assembly some months since, and obtained the usual circulation of a parliamentary paper. These include not only the agricultural statistics as collected for 1872, but also the results of the collection of these statistics in the three preceding years (1869, 1870, and 1871), thus affording—it is hoped in a convenient and easily intelligible form—means of comparison for the whole period for which the "Account of land in cultivation, and of the agricultural produce thereof," has been taken under the provisions of the Act of 1867.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN B. BENNETT,
Registrar-General.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY of the COLONY of NEW ZEALAND from 1853 to 1871 INCLUSIVE.

Year.	Population.			Able to Read and Write.*	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigration (excess over Emigration).	Houses.*
	Males.	Females.	Totals.						
1853	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,091	—
1854	17,914	14,640	32,554	—	—	—	—	2,057	—
1855	20,781	16,411	37,192	—	1,460	470	406	3,937	—
1856	25,356	20,184	45,540	—	1,722	406	404	2,525	—
1857	27,606	22,196	49,802	—	1,966	434	478	3,042	—
1858	33,679	25,734	59,413	37,681	2,272	582	534	6,130	12,812
1859	41,107	30,486	71,593	—	2,647	704	603	8,637	—
1860	45,394	34,317	79,711	—	3,146	1,092	690	6,064	—
1861	61,062	37,959	99,021	65,753	3,441	1,109	878	16,222	22,398
1862	79,680	46,132	125,812	—	4,064	1,231	1,091	20,991	—
1863	105,978	58,070	164,048	—	5,115	1,983	1,485	35,120	—
1864	106,580	65,578	172,158	123,088	6,501	2,921	1,878	8,527	37,996
1865	117,376	73,231	190,607	—	7,490	2,757	1,908	12,309	—
1866	125,080	79,034	204,114	—	8,466	2,540	2,038	7,599	—
1867	131,929	86,739	218,668	151,431	8,918	2,702	2,050	4,859	54,015
1868	134,621	91,997	226,618	—	9,391	2,662	2,085	860	—
1869	140,112	97,137	237,249	—	9,718	2,721	1,931	3,641	—
1870	145,732	102,668	248,400	—	10,277	2,703	1,851	3,577	—
1871	156,431	110,555	266,986	173,459	10,592	2,642	1,864	4,786	57,182

Year.	Crown Lands.			Land (including Sown Grasses) under Cultivation.	Live Stock.*			
	Waste Lands sold in each Year.	Cash Realized.	Free Grants.		Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
	acres.	£	acres.	acres.				
1853	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1854	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1855	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1856	51,972	33,156	14	—	—	—	—	—
1857	141,159	79,060	6,169	121,648	—	—	—	—
1858	239,128	150,839	6,277	141,007	14,912	137,204	1,523,324	40,734
1859	477,021	222,885	45,730	156,940	—	—	—	—
1860	424,254	204,113	47,016	—	—	—	—	—
1861	449,358	285,365	18,834	226,621	28,275	193,285	2,761,583	43,270
1862	658,337	506,657	40,335	—	—	—	—	—
1863	529,437	380,998	66,853	—	—	—	—	—
1864	691,174	595,858	47,198	382,655	49,409	249,760	4,937,273	61,276
1865	503,112	341,094	62,681	—	—	—	—	—
1866	603,406	528,028	55,975	—	—	—	—	—
1867	288,917	287,416	76,743	676,909	65,715	312,835	8,418,579	115,104
1868	199,309	182,065	42,205	—	—	—	—	—
1869	112,211	115,941	145,449	783,435	—	—	—	—
1870	76,766	88,419	37,256	997,477	—	—	—	—
1871	92,642	110,973	123,796	1,042,042	81,028	436,592	9,700,629	151,460

* This information has been correctly ascertained only for the Years in which a Census of the Colony was taken.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY of the COLONY of NEW ZEALAND from 1853 to 1871 INCLUSIVE (*continued*).

Year.	Postal.					Shipping.			
						Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Letters (Received and Despatched).	Newspapers (Received and Despatched).	Postal Revenue.	Number of Money Orders Issued.	Amount of Money Orders Issued.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
	number.	number.	£		£				
1853	119,039	177,583	—	—	—	238	65,504	229	62,891
1854	138,482	201,381	—	—	—	293	74,831	293	76,718
1855	171,407	238,522	—	—	—	378	88,614	341	79,825
1856	196,760	271,254	—	—	—	326	85,748	323	82,991
1857	337,721	498,163	—	—	—	289	78,309	283	76,524
1858	482,856	684,348	6,024	—	—	339	90,118	322	82,293
1859	707,870	839,385	7,812	—	—	438	136,580	398	120,392
1860	890,369	1,029,356	10,068	—	—	398	140,276	398	140,293
1861	1,236,768	1,428,351	14,108	—	—	596	197,986	546	205,350
1862	2,122,232	2,064,123	22,710	1,410	6,590	813	301,365	783	288,647
1863	3,403,248	3,397,669	32,329	11,586	55,703	1,154	419,935	1,094	394,665
1864	4,151,142	4,306,017	39,302	16,591	78,556	1,117	426,004	1,089	433,253
1865	4,443,473	4,206,992	46,475	17,236	78,576	862	295,625	783	283,020
1866	4,758,644	4,373,039	49,598	22,710	108,779	1,019	330,303	986	306,979
1867	4,811,240	3,060,888	55,331	24,473	115,610	944	309,568	950	308,169
1868	4,977,199	3,283,615	57,107	25,854	118,211	851	277,105	873	287,710
1869	5,016,595	3,563,147	58,007	28,427	127,218	764	250,731	771	247,764
1870	5,645,879	3,889,662	55,780	31,864	140,454	756	273,151	766	265,407
1871	6,081,697	4,179,784	70,249	36,291	157,397	729	274,643	709	265,618

Year.	Shipping.		Exports the Produce of New Zealand.			
	Registered Vessels belonging to the Colony.		Gold.		Wool.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			oz.	£	lbs.	£
1853	—	—	—	—	1,071,340	66,507
1854	—	—	—	—	1,254,416	70,103
1855	—	—	—	—	1,772,344	93,104
1856	—	—	—	—	2,559,618	146,070
1857	186	6,662	10,436	40,442	2,648,716	176,579
1858	189	6,852	13,533	52,443	3,810,372	254,022
1859	213	7,883	7,336	28,427	5,096,751	339,779
1860	238	8,527	4,538	17,585	6,665,880	444,392
1861	252	9,144	194,234	752,657	7,855,920	523,728
1862	287	10,825	410,862	1,591,389	9,839,265	674,226
1863	343	15,189	628,450	2,431,723	12,585,980	830,495
1864	423	22,573	480,171	1,857,847	16,691,666	1,070,997
1865	466	24,484	574,574	2,226,474	19,180,500	1,141,761
1866	493	26,787	735,376	2,844,517	22,810,776	1,354,152
1867	366	23,240	686,753	2,700,275	27,152,966	1,580,608
1868	372	24,539	637,474	2,504,326	28,875,163	1,516,548
1869	381	25,990	614,281	2,362,995	27,765,636	1,371,230
1870	384	26,743	544,880	2,157,585	37,039,763	1,703,944
1871	371	27,107	730,029	2,787,520	37,793,734	1,606,144

STATISTICAL SUMMARY of the COLONY of NEW ZEALAND from 1853 to 1871 INCLUSIVE (*continued*).

Year.	Exports the Produce of New Zealand.				Other Produce.	Imports.	Exports (the Produce of New Zealand).
	Flax (Phormium).		Gum (Kauri).				
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Total Value.	Total Value.
	tons.	£	tons.	£	£	£	£
1853	46	1,046	829	15,971	219,758	597,827	303,282
1854	48	1,563	1,660	28,864	220,360	891,201	320,890
1855	150	4,674	355	4,514	263,575	813,460	365,867
1856	22	552	1,440	18,591	153,220	710,868	318,433
1857	38	710	2,521	35,250	116,413	992,994	369,394
1858	64	1,516	1,810	20,036	105,932	1,141,273	433,949
1859	77	1,593	2,010	20,776	130,733	1,551,030	521,308
1860	61	1,240	1,046	9,851	76,065	1,548,333	549,133
1861	2	43	856	9,888	52,925	2,493,811	1,339,241
1862	13	261	1,103	11,107	81,037	4,626,082	2,358,020
1863	13	251	1,400	27,027	53,395	7,024,674	3,342,891
1864	7	170	2,228	60,590	61,030	7,000,655	3,050,634
1865	3	75	1,867	46,060	89,051	5,594,977	3,503,421
1866	—	996	2,535	70,572	125,863	5,894,863	4,396,100
1867	126	4,256	2,685	77,491	116,834	5,344,607	4,479,464
1868	534	8,137	2,690	72,493	167,258	4,985,748	4,268,762
1869	2,028	45,245	2,850	111,307	199,357	4,976,126	4,090,134
1870	5,471	132,578	4,391	175,074	375,501	4,639,015	4,544,682
1871	4,248	90,611	5,054	167,958	518,871	4,078,193	5,171,104

Year.	Revenue.			Electric Telegraph.			Savings Banks.		Convictions in Supreme Court.
	Ordinary.	Territorial.	Total for Year.	Miles of Line.	Number of Messages.	Cash, and Cash Values.	Number of Depositors.	Balance to Credit on 31st Dec.	
	£	£	£			£		£	
1853	80,104	66,751	146,855	—	—	—	—	—	13
1854	110,590	180,826	291,416	—	—	—	—	—	21
1855	111,234	62,300	173,534	—	—	—	—	—	31
1856	107,801	76,177	183,978	—	—	—	—	—	28
1857	154,383	91,193	245,576	—	—	—	—	—	27
1858	179,326	161,799	341,125	—	—	—	715	7,862	62
1859	208,446	241,882	450,328	—	—	—	802	7,996	70
1860	233,108	215,760	448,868	—	—	—	1,104	12,450	91
1861	324,146	347,354	671,500	—	—	—	1,144	22,921	100
1862	508,332	606,830	1,115,162	—	—	—	1,496	29,768	145
1863	742,504	524,404	1,266,908	—	—	—	2,371	44,117	234
1864	815,676	714,770	1,530,446	—	—	—	4,669	94,248	262
1865	936,945	500,045	1,436,990	—	—	—	4,304	87,400	332
1866	1,086,293	776,429	1,862,722	699	48,231	9,114	4,513	91,863	277
1867	1,225,584	561,730	1,787,314	714	87,436	14,295	6,579	156,855	240
1868	1,195,512	425,323	1,620,835	1,471	134,647	26,224	8,121	243,615	248
1869	1,025,516	382,070	1,407,586	1,611	173,746	32,649	10,103	320,383	277
1870	960,368	327,589	1,287,957	1,887	238,195	27,422	12,137	388,804	226
1871	921,672	377,699	1,299,371	2,015	369,085	37,203	14,275	454,966	162

TRINIDAD.

No. 9.

TRINIDAD.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor RENNIE to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Trinidad, 14th April, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herein, in duplicate, the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1872, and to furnish the usual Report on the most important items contained therein.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

2. The only change actually occurring during the year was in the rate of export duty leviable on produce for purposes of immigration. This duty, which was in 1871 calculated on a basis of 7*s.* 6*d.* for every hogshead of sugar, with proportionate rates for smaller packages and other produce, was reduced to 6*s.* per hogshead, with like proportionate rates, during the year 1872. This reduction was possible in consequence of the large balance of 11,347*l.* being at the credit of the Immigration Fund at the beginning of last year.

3. Ordinances were also passed in Council for repealing the Income Tax, and raising a small licence fee on trades in lieu ;—for reducing the duty on flour from 5*s.* to 3*s.* per barrel, for abolishing the duty on live stock for consumption, and slightly altering the duties on wines and malt liquors, and for allowing a drawback of wharfage dues on goods re-exported within six months. These Ordinances, however, have effect only from the 1st of January last.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The revenue of the past year, notwithstanding the small-pox epidemic and a slightly deficient sugar crop, has continued to develop a wonderful elasticity. The actual total, as shown in the returns, is 296,060*l.*, as against 272,094*l.* in the preceding year, and this increase has occurred in the face of a diminution of 14,734*l.* in the immigration receipts,—due partly to a reduction in the rate of export duty, as shown above, and partly to diminished exports of sugar. But immigration moneys can hardly be considered as forming part of either the general revenue or the general expenditure, and if these be deducted from the revenues of the past three years, the result will be—

	£
Revenue 1870 - - - -	206,424
„ 1871 - - - - -	223,884
„ 1872 - - - -	261,584

showing that out of an increase of over 55,000*l.* accruing during the last two years, 1872 has to be credited with nearly 38,000*l.*

5. Most of the items of revenue give larger returns. Imports show an increase of 12,353*l.*, and rum duties of 12,907*l.* The augmentation in the latter is so great, that I had thought that less spirits

might have been imported, and that the Excise was unduly inflated at the expense of the Customs; but on referring to the details, I find that the import duties on spirits were 11,357*l.* in 1872 against 10,099*l.* in 1871. I should be glad if I could ascribe this good result, in a money point of view, to a better collection of the duties rather than to an increased consumption; but, though I believe both contribute to it, I am afraid the latter is the predominant cause.

6. The receipts from the sales of land have more than doubled those of the preceding year; and, considering that there is an almost unlimited amount of land to be disposed of, and that all fresh cultivation adds to the revenue, this appears to be a very satisfactory feature.

7. The total expenditure of 1872 was 285,384*l.*, which, though considerably less than the revenue, does appear large. If, however, it be analyzed, it will be found that, excluding immigration, extraordinary expenditure on account of the small-pox epidemic, public works, repayments of loans about to be extinguished, drawbacks of duties, and certain items which, as explained by Governor Longden in his Blue Book Report of 1871, are mere matters of account, the ordinary expenditure of the Colony during last year scarcely exceeded 132,500*l.* Immigration, exclusive of establishments, figured for 63,162*l.*; small-pox epidemic, 10,691*l.*; public works, 55,003*l.*; repayments, &c., 9,216*l.*; drawbacks, 4,454*l.*; and items of account, 10,303*l.* Deducting the items of account and the drawbacks from the receipts of the year, as previously shown, there remains a revenue of 246,827*l.* against an expenditure, exclusive of immigration and public works, of 132,500*l.*

8. This is a very healthy state of the finances, which will be but slightly affected by the reduction of taxation commenced during the present year; and, with a balance of 108,977*l.* standing to the credit of that Colony on the 31st December last, as shown in the assets and liabilities statement, there is left a good margin for aiding immigration and carrying out many of the great public works of which the Island stands in need.

9. The local revenues of the boroughs and wards, including the Education Rate, amounted to 58,238*l.*, and the expenditure therein to 61,699*l.* The revenue and expenditure of the boroughs and wards have been during the last seven years—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1866	41,469	40,284
1867	42,697	43,558
1868	45,786	46,991
1869	46,641	46,281
1870	45,244	43,404
1871	49,721	45,588*
1872	58,238	61,699

The large increase to the rates during the past year arises partly from a new assessment having been made in 1871, by which the assessors

* Education Rate first levied in 1871.

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found that nearly 13,000 acres more land were under cultivation than had been previously returned, and partly from an increase in the Education Rate.

Public Debt.

10. The only debt which now forms a charge on the general revenue is the balance of a loan of 125,000*l.* guaranteed by the Imperial Government; 40,000*l.* of this loan was paid off in July, 1870, and 60,000*l.* in February of the present year; and stock to the extent of 22,850*l.* is held towards the repayment of the balance in July of next year. The last instalment required to extinguish the Public Buildings Loan for 16,000*l.* was paid on the 31st ultimo.

11. The other debts for which the Colony is responsible are merely balances, amounting to 57,950*l.*, of loans contracted for the construction of tramroads and highways, which are repayable by the local authorities or estates concerned.

12. The Colony, therefore, with the exception of a small balance of about 4,500*l.* due on the guaranteed loan, may be said to be free from debt.

Public Works.

13. A sum of 55,003*l.* was laid out on public works and roads and wharves during the year. This includes 6,750*l.* expended on the purchase of a block of land of nearly 30 acres in extent, situated in the town of Port-of-Spain.

14. The principal buildings in progress were the Police Barracks and Court Houses in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando. The former is a large and handsome edifice which it is intended to complete during next year. The latter will probably be finished by the end of the present one. A laboratory for the use of the Professor of Chemistry was also constructed, and two warehouses built for storing petroleum.

15. Of other works the greatest is the Port-of-Spain wharf improvement—an extensive undertaking which has been going on for many years, but which was pushed forward with unusual vigour in 1872, in order to be ready for the railway which is about to be commenced. The work is expected to be complete next month.

16. Roads and bridges also figure for considerable sums—the eastern high road connecting Port-of-Spain with the eastern coast having had upwards of 2,500*l.* expended upon it; and other roads proportionate sums.

17. Three English foremen artificers were procured through the Crown agents, for the purpose of superintending the persons employed on the public works. They appear to be good and trustworthy men, and a great improvement in the quantity and style of work performed is already apparent.

Legislation.

18. Twenty-eight Ordinances were passed during the year, of which the principal are:—

19. Ordinance No. 3. "For preventing the propagation of Small-"pox." This Ordinance contained stringent provisions against the

landing in the Colony of persons unprotected against the small-pox. It was passed at first for only three months, but by repeated renewals it was kept in force, with the best effect, until the 31st of January of the present year.

20. Ordinance No. 4. "For the regulation of Hackney Carriages "in the town of Port-of-Spain." The usual provisions are contained in this Ordinance for obtaining an efficient control, through the police, over cab-owners and cab-drivers; cabstands are appointed and loitering prohibited; the inspection of cabs and horses, and rejection of those which, in the opinion of the Inspector-Commandant of Police are unfit for use, are also provided for.

21. Ordinance No. 5. "To amend the Immigration Ordinance." This Ordinance was passed to meet a desire of the Indian Government to have a positive minimum named as the day's wage of an indentured immigrant. Twenty-five cents per diem is fixed as this minimum for a day's work of nine hours.

22. Ordinance No. 6. "For the prevention of danger from Petroleum." The indiscriminate storeage of petroleum and other mineral oils having been found to be a great source of danger on the occurrence of fires, this Ordinance provides that Government petroleum warehouses shall be established in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando, and that no more than 10 gallons of such oils shall be kept in any house for private use, or 50 gallons for sale. Vessels coming into the harbour with petroleum on board as cargo are moreover bound to anchor in the places designated for such vessels by the Harbour-Master.

23. Ordinance No. 11. "For altering the Sittings of the Supreme Court." By this Ordinance the days of the sittings of the court are fixed throughout the year, and a long vacation, extending from the 5th of July to the 10th of October, is provided.

24. Ordinance No. 14. "For the further amendment of the Law of Evidence." This Ordinance further assimilates the law of the Colony to the law of England as regards evidence, and provides that parties to any action for breach of promise of marriage shall be competent to give evidence in such actions.

25. Ordinance No. 19. "For the prevention of Glanders." This Ordinance is substituted for one previously in force on the same subject. The principal object is to provide for a salaried Examiner of Animals instead of one paid by fees, for a reduction of the fees charged, and the payment of the same into the Treasury.

26. Ordinances Nos. 22, 27, and 28 repeal the Income Tax and alter certain duties as mentioned under the head of Taxes, and provide for a licence fee to be paid by all persons carrying on business in premises of the annual value of more than 25*l.* in the boroughs of Port-of-Spain and San Fernando, or of 10*l.* elsewhere. The licence fee is fixed at 4*l.* per cent. on the annual rent paid or rated.

27. Ordinance No. 23. "To improve and consolidate the Law with regard to the practice of Vaccination." This Ordinance abolishes the office of Vaccinator-General, and provides that the Island shall be divided into vaccination districts to which public vaccinators are to be appointed. Power is given to the Governor to make rules as to the attendance of the district vaccinators at specified times and

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places, and for the efficient performance of vaccination and, if necessary, of re-vaccination.

28. The parents or guardians of children under sixteen years of age, whether born in the Island or arriving in the Island, are held responsible for their vaccination, and children born in the Colony must be vaccinated or taken to the district vaccinator within three months of their birth. To insure the latter, Registrars of Births provide parents or guardians with printed notices of the times and places at which the vaccinators attend, and also supply the vaccinators with monthly returns of all births registered during the preceding twelve months of which the vaccination has not been recorded.

29. District vaccinators receive a fee of one dollar for each successful vaccination, and Registrars of Births receive one shilling for the registration of each successful vaccination certificate.

30. Several Proclamations were issued prohibiting the setting of fire to lands in specified districts during portions of the month of May, and when the disturbances in Venezuela ceased a Proclamation was made revoking the one of 12th July, 1870, prohibiting the export of arms and military stores to that country. On the cessation of the small-pox epidemic, on the 7th November, a Proclamation was also issued revoking one dated the 8th November, 1871, as to the enforcement of the third part of the Public Health Ordinance.

Civil Establishments.

31. Governor Longden, having obtained leave of absence, left the Colony on the 10th of July, and on the following day I took the oaths as Administrator of the Government.

32. Mr. Hoare, the former Receiver-General, having resigned, Mr. W. R. Pyne was, on the 14th day of October, appointed Receiver-General, and Mr. Basanta, chief clerk in the same department, became Sub-Receiver at San Fernando on the retirement of Mr. Knox. Mr. Knox was allotted a pension of 191*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* for his services, but he only lived thirteen days to enjoy it. Other changes and promotions occurred in the Receiver-General's staff in consequence of Mr. Basanta's promotion, and also in consequence of the death of Mr. Guppy, the third clerk.

33. In the Immigration Department, the death of Mr. Thornton Warner, the Emigration Agent in Calcutta, has caused a vacancy. The duties of the office are now being temporarily performed by the British Guiana Agent. An increase to the immigration staff in the Colony was made by the appointment of an Assistant Inspector of Immigrants.

34. In the Medical Department, I am glad to notice that the staff of doctors has been recruited by the addition of four new medical men—Dr. Chittenden, Dr. Lea, Dr. Kastan, and Dr. Arnold; but there is still much room for others. Dr. Bakewell, the Vaccinator-General and Health Officer of Shipping, has retired from the service.

35. A change has also occurred in the Head Mastership of the Royal College. Mr. Deighton, the former principal, having accepted a post in Barbados, Mr. Miles, from the Uppingham school, was appointed by your Lordship to succeed him, and he arrived in the Colony on the 21st of November.

Population and Public Health.

36. Some very interesting Tables regarding population, education, and cultivation of land were prepared in the early part of the year by the Registrar-General, copies of which I forwarded to your Lordship in the month of August last. These Tables were founded on the census taken in 1871, the principal details of which were alluded to in Governor Longden's Report on the Blue Book for 1870. I will now, therefore, confine myself to the Registrar-General's statistics of the year under report.

37. These statistics refer to births, marriages, and deaths, and contain a not very satisfactory account of these important matters. The births, as registered, were only 3,890, whilst the deaths amounted to 6,366. The marriages were 477.

38. The population, as ascertained in April, 1871, was 109,638, on which the births would give a rate of about 35 per mil., and the deaths 58 per mil., leaving a deficit of 2,476 persons. I doubt, however, if the full number of births were registered, though it is supposed that from a defect in the Registration Ordinance, whereby insufficient particulars of deaths are recorded, some persons may have been twice registered as dead; but even taking these cases into account, there has been a large decrease in the population, if immigration be omitted.

39. It must be admitted that the year 1872 was an exceptional one for Trinidad, as a most virulent epidemic of small-pox was raging during a greater part of the time. The deaths from this cause alone are registered as 2,561; but, exclusive of small-pox, there were 3,805 deaths, giving a rate very nearly equal to that of the births. The following Tables will show that this is the greatest number of deaths that have been registered in any one year for the last ten years, and, considering that still-births and deaths are not recorded, no reduction on that account can be made from the ordinarily high death-rate of Trinidad:—

	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
1863	2,776	2,384	313
1864	2,974	2,522	469
1865	2,955	2,448	294
1866	2,805	2,972	385
1867	3,110	3,326	347
1868	3,518	2,764	374
1869	3,415	3,801	371
1870	3,404	3,085	396
1871	3,842	3,370	416
1872	3,890	6,366	477

40. Now it is strange that during an epidemic of small-pox the deaths from other causes were in excess of the total deaths of other years, and in looking for the reason I have observed the somewhat curious coincidence that the enormous increase in the rum duties—to which I have previously alluded—corresponds almost exactly with the prevalence and progress of the epidemic; and I cannot help thinking that the excessive drinking which was indulged in with the

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view, of obviating the effects of contagion and of drowning sorrow (as it is said) at the wakes held over the victims of the disease has not a little contributed to this result. The small-pox commenced its frightful career in the latter part of the September quarter of 1871, and ceased in the December quarter of 1872. The returns of rum duties give the following collections:—

	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.
	£	£	£	£	£
March quarter - -	10,673	10,842	10,441	14,349	13,464
June quarter - - -	11,564	12,607	12,751	16,195	—
Sept. quarter - -	11,062	11,630	11,856	15,488	—
Dec. quarter - - -	12,405	11,625	14,322	16,246	—

41. I am prepared to admit that better collection of the duties may have had something to do with the increased receipts, but the large figures in the Table run too nearly parallel with the march of the disease for me to be able to think that the two are not connected. Moreover, the diminished receipts in the past quarter point to the same conclusion, and lead me to hope that with the disappearance of the small-pox the habits of the people may be improved.

42. In other Despatches I have reported to your Lordship the defective sanitary state of the town, and the need there is for some better organized system of medical relief in the country districts. With these deficiencies, and the hard-drinking tendencies of the people, the ordinarily high rate of mortality is scarcely to be wondered at.

43. Marriages, though showing an increase over the previous year, do not advance in so rapid a ratio as they ought. There is no disinclination to matrimony among the Creoles that I am aware of, but the lavish expenditure they think it necessary to make on wedding festivities renders marriage a luxury in which only the provident can indulge. The number of marriages, however, should not be considered relatively to the general population, for it must be borne in mind that there is as yet no registration of Indian or Chinese marriages, and that nearly one-third of the population belong to Asiatic races.

Immigration.

44. Though barely alluded to in the Blue Book returns, immigration is a matter of so much importance to many of the Colonies, that a few statistics regarding it may be appropriately given.

45. The number of immigrants introduced into the Island during 1872 was 3,604, composed of 2,046 men, 959 women, 268 boys, 167 girls, and 164 infants. The proportion of the sexes amongst the adults was about 47 women to every 100 men. The mortality on the voyage amongst the Coolies who arrived in the early part of the year was small, only $1\frac{13}{100}$ per cent., but cholera and distress in India caused the later shipments to be greater sufferers. The average mortality rates on board ship were about 3 per cent.

46. The immigrants suffered little from the small-pox epidemic, and only 9 deaths from this cause occurred amongst indentured Coolies. Excluding the epidemic, the Asiatics appear to have been

more healthy than the Creoles, for whilst the death-rate of the Island from causes other than small-pox gave 35 per 1,000, the total deaths amongst the Coolies on estates are stated by the Agent-General of Immigrants to be only about 22 per 1,000, or 466 on 21,157 persons.

47. Ninety-four Indian immigrants accepted grants of land in lieu of back passages, and 220 men, 97 women, 27 boys, 32 girls, and 22 infants returned to India in the 'Pandora.' The money remitted by the return Coolies amounted to $54,876, besides much jewellery and specie which they kept under their own charge.

48. The total number of immigrants on estates on the 31st December last was 21,177, and there were also about 4,000 or 5,000 free Coolies in different parts of the Island, besides nearly 5,000 children born in the Colony of Indian parents. The Chinese, who have all served their periods of indenture, number about 1,400.

Religion.

49. The separation of Trinidad from the diocese of Barbados was, as your Lordship is aware, effected on the 1st of May last, and the first Anglican bishop of Trindad arrived on the 2nd of August. The Anglican clergy of this Colony have now, therefore, their own complete organization, and if financial difficulties can be got over, the alteration is a beneficial one. Bishop Rawle, in a most generous spirit, has agreed to be satisfied with a much less salary than was originally proposed for him, though I regret to say that even this reduced stipend is far from being properly secured. Endeavours are being made to raise an endowment fund, but unless the merchants and proprietors connected with Trinidad who are resident in England will exert themselves and contribute largely, nothing like an adequate sum can be collected.

50. The complete religious equality now established appears to have given great satisfaction to the Roman Catholics; and the Anglicans, though foreseeing difficulties, have the good sense to feel that what has been done is but just. Religious discord may be therefore said to have ceased.

Education.

51. Mr. Deighton, the principal of the Queen's Royal College, left the Colony early in the year on leave of absence, and subsequently resigned his appointment. The College was therefore worked at a considerable disadvantage. The number of scholars, however, increased from 75 to 83. The Affiliated College of the Immaculate Conception also increased its numbers from 67 in 1871 to 95 in 1872. At the annual examination held by the Cambridge Local Examiners by means of written examination papers, one pupil educated partly at the College of the Immaculate Conception and partly at the Royal College, who passed in honours, was awarded an exhibition.

52. In the primary schools the number of scholars is steadily advancing. The attendance at the Government and State-aided schools averaged 4,556 in 1872, against 3,924 in 1871, and 3,250 in 1870. Five new ward schools were opened during the year. Three new school-houses were built, and one other underwent exten-

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sive repairs. The schools in connection with the different churches and on the estates are supposed to have from 1,200 to 1,500 pupils.

53. About 300 Coolie children attend schools, and great efforts are being made to extend education amongst the Asiatics.

54. Eighteen certificates were granted to teachers at the annual examination held at the end of the year, and only four uncertificated masters are now in charge of ward or State-aided schools.

55. An assistant inspector of schools must soon be appointed to enable inspection to keep pace with the increase of schools and scholars.

Trade and Commerce.

56. Notwithstanding the prevalence of small-pox during the greater part of the year, and the strict quarantine which was enforced against Trinidad by all the neighbouring colonies, the trade of the Island does not appear to have suffered.

57. The total imports amounted to 1,233,771*l.*, being an increase of 15,747*l.* over those of the previous year. The United Kingdom furnished 104,000*l.* more than it did in 1871, but Venezuela shows a decrease of 90,000*l.* The imports from the different countries were valued as follows:—

	£
United Kingdom	639,739
British Possessions	209,862
United States	205,473
Venezuela	57,075
France and French Colonies	90,984
Other Countries	30,638
	£1,233,771

58. The total value of goods exported was 1,439,904*l.*, and the distribution thus:—

	£
United Kingdom	1,125,313
British Possessions	34,484
United States	73,270
Venezuela	108,548
France and French Colonies	29,564
Other Countries	68,725
	£1,439,904

As compared with 1871, sugar shows a slight falling off, the crop of sugar having been less by 150,000 cwt.; the actual figures are, export of 1871, 1,071,839 cwt.; 1872, 920,464 cwt.: the difference in the estimated value was 120,000*l.* Fortunately, however, this loss in the staple is somewhat balanced by increased exports of other produce, and the total decrease is less than 50,000*l.*

59. In cacao, the quantity exported increased from 57,339 cwt. in 1871 to 62,374 cwt. in 1872. Asphalt rose from 3,271 tons to 13,580 tons; and the value of cocoa-nuts and cocoa fibre from 8,732*l.* to 10,274*l.* The increase in the latter export would have been

greater had it not been for the failure of the mercantile firm which carried on the cocoa-nut fibre manufacture.

60. The carrying trade of the Island was performed in 639 vessels with an aggregate capacity of 219,449 tons, of which 614, representing 214,329 tons, were entered at Port-of-Spain and the remainder at San Fernando. The number of vessels was less but the tonnage more than in the preceding year.

Grants of Land and Squatting.

61. The grants of Crown land issued were only 663, against 697 in the preceding year, and the land granted 6,887 acres, against 6,550 acres. But these figures hardly represent the transactions, for in consequence of the pressure of work on the staff in the Secretary to the Intendant's office the grants are frequently not issued till some little time after the land is sold. The proceeds of land sales form a better test, for though land is usually disposed of at public auction; there is not much competition, and seldom more than the upset price is realized. Land sales in 1872 produced 4,674*l.*, against 2,105*l.* in 1871.

62. Squatting is being gradually put down, but in two or three of the Ward Unions it is not as yet entirely suppressed. Its extinction wholly depends on the wardens. Where the wardens are energetic and zealous, squatters purchase their lands or move to other wards. In Cedros, where the warden is unusually lax, I have placed the settlement of the district in the hands of a special commissioner, and order is being introduced.

Crimes and Prisons.

63. The books of the magistrates and of the police were not, in the early part of the year, kept in such a manner as to enable the new form of criminal statistics to be very accurately rendered; nor can the returns for the preceding three years be entirely relied upon. The conclusion, however, I am inclined to draw is, that the convictions before the magistrates bear a rather greater ratio to the cases entertained than in former years.

64. In the superior courts, out of 143 cases tried there were convictions in 107. The two convictions for murder were of Indian immigrants—one being the murder of a woman through jealousy. In both cases, however, the capital sentence was commuted for penal servitude for life.

65. The passing of the new rules for the management of the gaol has been delayed until Governor Longden's return to the Colony, and not much change has therefore taken place in this department. The number of prisoners in confinement on the 1st of January, 1872, was 306, and on the 31st December it was 314; 18 deaths occurred during the year. There were no cases of small-pox.

Hospitals and Asylums.

66. Two thousand one hundred and five patients were treated in the Port-of-Spain hospital, and 866 in the San Fernando hospital. The death-rate in the former was about 10 per cent., and in the latter

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17 per cent. The surgeon of the San Fernando hospital attributes the high mortality in that institution to the advanced stages of illness reached by the patients before entering.

67. In the Lunatic Asylum the daily average was 104 persons, males and females being in nearly equal proportions. The admissions were 37; deaths, 14; and discharges, 21. The Leper Asylum had a daily average of 88 inmates; 28 persons were admitted or re-admitted during the year, 16 died, and 14 deserted or were discharged at their own request. I am sending to your Lordship, in a separate Despatch, a most interesting report on leprosy, by Dr. Espinet, the medical superintendent of the asylum.

68. The inmates of the House of Refuge were moved, in the latter part of the year, into more airy and commodious premises. The number on the list was 32 on the 31st of December. The deaths during the year were 13.

Conclusion.

69. The year 1872 has been a most satisfactory one in a financial point of view. Notwithstanding a terrible epidemic of small-pox, quarantine restrictions, and a somewhat deficient sugar crop, the trade of the Colony has scarcely diminished; whilst the internal prosperity has been shown in the largely-increased revenue returns. The receipts of the past year have exceeded those of the previous one by nearly 24,000*l.*, the ordinary expenditure having at the same time remained almost stationary.

70. It must, however, be borne in mind, that in a sparsely-inhabited country, where an increase of population is perhaps the first desideratum, an excess of nearly 2,500 deaths over births, besides the human suffering involved, represents a loss at least equivalent to the cost of introduction of a similar number of immigrants. On this basis the epidemic, besides the actual expenditure of about 20,000*l.* which it entailed, may be said to have left the Colony some 50,000*l.* poorer; or, to put it in another way, 3,604 Coolies introduced during the year at an expense of upwards of 70,000*l.*, do not represent a gain of more than 1,000 persons.

71. It is often difficult to make people perceive that population can be gained almost as readily by saving the lives of those who are on the spot, as by importing others; but I must do the Members of Council in Trinidad the justice to say, that they are not likely to grudge the expenditure of money for sanitary purposes if a judicious mode of laying it out can be shown to them. The fatal effects of drunkenness are, however, more difficult to grapple with than defective drainage, and a cure can only be effected by a complete change in the habit sof the people. Restrictions on the sale of spirits might, nevertheless, in my opinion, be imposed sufficient to mitigate to a certain extent the evil.

72. Trinidad has a climate admirably suited to the African and Asiatic races, and not unhealthy even for Europeans; it has a soil so rich that guano has hardly yet been used as a fertilizing agent, and it has a situation at the mouth of the Orinoco which should make it the entrepôt for the trade of the Northern States of South America. With these immense natural advantages, population, sanitary pre-

cautions, improved means of internal communication, and shipping facilities seem all that is requisite in order to render it one of the most prosperous of British colonies. Capital apparently is not wanting, and much has been done during the year in the way of improved machinery for the manufacture of sugar. A great central factory, erected by the Colonial Company in the Naparimas, for the use, not only of their own estates, but of any neighbours who may bring their canes to it, has, by separating manufacture from cultivation, marked a new era in Trinidad sugar production.

73. As foreshadowing the change that immigration may make in the occupancy of the soil, I should mention that, in addition to the 367 immigrants who have taken ten-acre grants in lieu of back passages and numerous others who have purchased small plots of land, five Coolies recently associated themselves together and purchased the "Corial" Sugar Estate of 260 acres for 18,000 dollars—9,000 dollars of which were immediately paid down. These Coolies have hired a manager, and have spoken to the Agent-General of Immigrants about an allotment of indentured labourers for next year.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. H. RENNIE.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

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No. 10.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor CAIRNS to Governor Sir J. P. GRANT, K.C.B.

SIR, Government House, Belize, March 31, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1872, and to report thereon as follows:—

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue for 1872 was 38,719*l.*; the expenditure for ditto, 29,350*l.*; excess of revenue over expenditure, 9,369*l.*

3. A comparison of the revenue with that of the previous year shows a falling-off to the amount of 4,161*l.* in 1872. This decrease is mainly attributable to a temporary slackening of activity in the import trade, which in 1871 had proved to be too brisk for present wants.

4. It may be pointed out that duties upon the same articles are collected under various laws; thus, by Act 16 Victoria, c. 4, a duty of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied upon all imported goods, wares, and merchandise, and a further duty of 2*s.* per gallon upon all wines, spirits, and cordials; by Act 27 Victoria, c. 11, a duty of another 1 per cent.—the proceeds being applied to a wholly different purpose—is levied upon all imported goods, wares, and merchandise; while,

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by the Tariff Ordinance, which came into operation on the 1st of August last, specific duties, over and above the foregoing, are imposed upon certain enumerated articles—including cattle, cocoa, coffee, horses, mules, &c., lumber dressed and undressed, malt liquors and cyder, spirits and cordials, sugar, tea, tobacco, and wines, and an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. upon all articles (not specially exempted) of which the enumeration is omitted from the schedule to the law. This explanation accounts for some otherwise perplexing figures in the comparative statement of the revenue for 1871 and 1872. For instance, the receipts from spirits and cordials under Act 16 Victoria, c. 4, were 1,476*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* in 1872, as compared with 1,569*l.* 15*s.* in 1871, showing a decrease of 93*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* in 1872; but the receipts from the same items of import, under Ordinance 22 and the expiring Ordinance which it replaced, were 2,425*l.* 2*s.* in 1872, as compared with 2,269*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* in 1871, showing an increase of 155*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* in 1872. A reference to Ordinance 3 of 1871, the expiring law above referred to, acquaints one with the fact of its operation having been confined to a portion only of 1871, namely, from the 17th of April in that year, when the higher *ad valorem* duty leviable upon all unenumerated articles began to take effect; and the difference between the schedule to the Act 32 and 33 Victoria, c. 10, which, except in regard to unenumerated articles, remained in force until the 31st of July last, and the schedule to Ordinance 22, will account for the increased revenue from spirits and cordials during the latter part of 1872. On and after the 1st of August last the duty upon these articles was raised from 75 cents to one dollar per imperial gallon.

5. In the case of wines, the duty levied under the Act 16 Victoria, c. 4, was slightly in excess of the amount received in 1871, while what was collected under the Tariff Act and the Ordinance 22 was less than the collection of 1871 by 241*l.* 18*s.* This, again, is explained by the circumstance that the Act 16 Victoria, c. 4, draws no distinction in favour of what are known as light wines, while the other laws do. The import of wine was, therefore, greater in 1872 than in 1871; but the excess consisted of such light wines as claret, paying just half the amount of duty leviable upon port, sherry, madeira, and the sparkling wines.

6. The other heads of increased revenue were:—Tonnage, cattle, cigars, coffee, horses, sugar, tea, unenumerated articles, tax on wheels, tax on horses, light dues, hospital dues, hospital dues on doreys (small native craft), harbour dues, fees received in the office of the Colonial Secretary, fees in the clerk of courts' office, police-court fees, fines and confiscations, and land sales and rents; and of decreased revenue:—land tax, cocoa, malt liquors and cyder, spirit-excise, sugar-excise, tobacco, wood-lumber, tax on drays, ditto on dogs, annual hospital dues, wharfage dues, transhipment dues, storage on gunpowder, spirit licenses, magistrates' fees, Provost Marshal's ditto, churches' ditto, market ditto, receipts on account of the sale of public property, and rent of market stalls.

7. The increased receipts from tonnage, cattle, and dues upon shipping were owing to the revival of the mahogany trade, consequent upon remunerative prices in the European market. The cattle, numbering 1,370 against 625 imported in 1871, were mostly draught

oxen, which are in general use for dragging the logs of timber to the river side. The sugar imported is refined or lump sugar, of which the manufacture has not yet been undertaken here. The item of land sales and rents, appearing to represent a considerably increased revenue, is in reality a mere matter of account, arising out of the transfer to general revenue in 1872 of what used to be kept distinct as a "Crown fund." No transactions took place, whether in the sale or rent of the Crown lands, subsequent to this transfer, the department having been in process of reconstruction, and applications for grants or for licences to fell and remove timber growing on Crown lands being infrequent at the present time, on account of the existence of wide tracts of country claimed as private property, and also partly on account of the scanty population.

8. The decrease of the receipts upon most of the items was so trifling as to be unworthy of separate notice; but, as influencing the consumption of malt liquors, of home-made spirits, and home-grown sugar, and of tobacco, and as affecting the return to the tax described as "annual hospital dues," which consists of the payment by agreement of 1*s.* 6*d.* per annum for every man or boy employed on board of coasting vessels of a certain class. The fact of the supply of local labour having been unusually limited during the greater part of 1872 should not be overlooked, many of the best workmen having been induced to leave the Colony for Costa Rica in connection with the railway works progressing there; so that there were fewer mouths to feed, and fewer hands to employ within Colonial limits. The same cause would not fail to operate in respect of diminishing the revenue receivable for tavern licences, of which a less number was taken out in 1872 than in the previous year, while two retailers who had previously held such licences obtained shop liquor licences instead (the tavern licence costing 40*l.* in the towns, and the value of a shop liquor licence, which is confined to Belize, at that time being but 10*l.*) Wharfage dues were abolished from the 1st of August, 1872, and Church fees ceased to be collected as part of the public revenue from the date of the Churches Disestablishment Ordinance beginning to take effect, namely, the 2nd of August, 1872.

9. That the produce of sundry other items of receipt must always fluctuate, may best be made apparent by instancing the considerable decrease in 1872 in the amount derived from the sale of Government property, principally old and unserviceable stores. This decrease is in the case in point to be traced to the sale, locally and through the the Crown agents, of a quantity of useless arms and uniforms imported for an extinct militia force, the proceeds of the transaction having been brought to account in 1871.

10. The expenditure of 1872 having amounted, as already stated, o 29,350*l.*, was in excess of that of 1871 by 3,897*l.*

11. This increase was chiefly occasioned by the payment of a fixed charge, by recent arrangement, for military services at the rate of 5,000*l.* per annum; and the other noticeable items of increase were confined to seven. In regard to the first, under the head of *Police*, there was an increased expenditure of 170*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*, following upon the augmentation of the police force in the disturbed districts, and the purchase of horses, &c., for a certain number of the men of that force;

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under the head of *Lighting and Light Houses* an unusual quantity of oil was bought and stored, the supply being always precarious and often difficult to keep up; under the head of *Special Grants*, there was an increase of 495*l.* expended upon the purchase of a piece of land in the centre of the town, to complete the Court-house square, and upon a gratuity to the additional paid magistrate, on account of losses he had sustained during the Indian raid; under the head of *Public Works*, the works to be elsewhere noticed in this Report involved an increased outlay of 734*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.*; under the head of *Petty Expenses*, various contingent charges were defrayed which had hitherto been borne by the revenue known as the "Crown fund," now no longer kept distinct from the general Colonial revenue; under the head of *Frontier Disturbances*, 1872, many unforeseen payments were called for, originating in the raid; and under the head of *Pensions*, a new expenditure amounting to 371*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* was created by reason of the retirements of the chaplain of St. John's Church on the terms set forth in the Churches Disestablishment Ordinance, and of the keeper of the common gaol, and by reason of a yearly allowance being granted to the widow of the attendant at the lunatic asylum, who had met his death in the execution of his duty.

Against the expenditure under this unaccustomed head of service must be placed the set-off of a permanent saving at the rate of 600*l.* per annum effected upon the retirement, already noticed, of the chaplain of St. John's.

12. The reduction thence arising, together with a temporary saving on the salary of the Chief Justice, through Mr. Corner's conditional retirement on the 15th of April last, resulted within the year in a decreased expenditure of 600*l.* 17*s.* on account of the "Civil List," Under the head of *Market* there was a reduction of 157*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* because of the duties of the clerk of markets having been entrusted to the inspector of police since the 1st of April, 1872,—as provided by Ordinance 10 of 1871, the salary of the holder of the two offices being charged to the item of expenditure "*Police.*" The decrease of 171*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* under the heading of *Postal,—Transport of Mails*, is referable to the payment of the Colonial share of the subsidy not having been completed during 1872 for the last quarter of the year. The decrease headed *Drawbacks* is explained by a temporary dulness in the trade with the neighbouring states, some of which were involved in political disturbances almost throughout the year. Under the head of *Printing*, the less expenditure of 203*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* was owing to the newly-organized Government Printing Department being carefully managed by the Colonial Secretary. The outlay of 200*l.* (heading *Census*) covered the charges for taking the general Census of 1870, and was met from the revenue of the succeeding year; and, similarly, and lastly, the transaction headed *Corosal Courts Premises* related to an unusual expenditure occurring in and confined to 1871.

Assets and Liabilities.

13. The assets of the Colony on the 31st December, 1872, amounted to 28,418*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, and the liabilities (Civil) to 25,070*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*,—showing a balance in favour of the Government of 3,347*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.* At the end of 1871 the liabilities exceeded the assets by

6,418*l.* 15*s.* 10½*d.*, as may be seen by the accompanying tabular statement for the last five years:—

Year.	Deficit.			Surplus.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
31st December, 1868 -	21,970	0	4	—		
„ 1869 -	18,891	6	1	—		
„ 1870 -	18,273	5	0	—		
„ 1871 -	6,418	15	10½	—		
„ 1872 -	—			3,347	6	5

Public Debt.

14. The particulars of the Colonial liabilities of every kind at the close of 1872 were briefly these:—When the year ended the Colony was in debt 11,550*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* on account of the Immigration Loan, of which the last instalment must be paid off in 1877. The sinking fund of the debt contained 7,196*l.*, of which sum 3,100*l.* were transferred thereto from general revenue in 1872, and 418*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* accrued as interest upon an investment in consols on behalf of the fund. The interest at six per cent. paid on the coupons of the loan during 1872 amounted to 825*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*, and the actual deficit upon the loan (principal and interest), beyond the provisions for its ultimate repayment made by the sinking fund, stood at 7,755*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, less the saving on account of interest upon the debentures redeemed in 1872, representing the value of 5,000*l.*

15. At the same date there remained upon the South of Belize Improvement Loan Debt, which must be finally discharged in 1880, a balance of liability amounting to 10,770*l.* 16*s.* The Sinking Fund, supplemented on occasion by advances from the Immigration Loan Fund—advances that are regularly repaid as fast as money is forthcoming from the import duty of one per centum affected to the settlement of the loan—was reinforced by 1678*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* Interest at six per cent. was paid to the amount of 859*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, leaving a deficit of 13,975*l.* 10*s.* (principal and future interest) to be made good within the next eight years. Debentures to the value of 2,270*l.* were redeemed in 1872.

16. Finally, the sum-total of the debt due to the War Department stood on the 31st of December last at 7,410*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* To explain the increase of the military debt, amounting to 6,945*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* at the close of 1869, it is necessary to observe that to the extraordinary military expenditure of 1867 and 1868, arising out of frontier disturbances, and charges on account of outpost garrisons and military expeditions, there must be added similar charges accruing since 1869, for which the Colony is held liable, and which are entailed by troops being stationed in the Northern District. By an arrangement accepted by the Secretary of State for War, in 1871, these military liabilities, old and new, have been put in course of liquidation by a payment, experimentally, of 5,000*l.* per annum for three years.

17. Contrasting the public debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1869, with its present state, the gross amount at the former period was 53,008*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*, and on the 31st December, 1872, 29,731*l.* 6*s.*, exclusive in both cases of a computation of the interest to accrue

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before the redemption of the bonds of the South of Belize Improvement Loan and the Immigration Loan, showing a reduction of 23,277*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*; or, making allowance for the amounts in the sinking funds at the end of the two periods, the Colonial debt on the 31st December, 1869, was 46,722*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*, and on the 31st December, 1872, 22,535*l.* 6*s.*

18. It is to be further noted that two debts outstanding in 1869, and included in the foregoing calculation, namely, a debt of 1,943*l.* to the General Post Office, and a liability of 1,753*l.* 1*s.*, with interest at six per cent., upon an issue of Treasury bills have in the interval been paid in full.

Military Expenditure.

19. The expenditure incurred by Great Britain for the military protection of the Colony, was 14,635*l.* 10*s.*, of which sum British Honduras contributed 5,000*l.*, as the result of the arrangement already noticed, towards the maintenance of the second of the two companies of troops stationed in Honduras, besides paying 13*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* for repairs to the outpost garrison buildings, 3*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* for ammunition, and 6*s.* 6*d.* for cleaning Colonial arms.

20. There is no longer any militia or volunteer force embodied, nor do I see how such a force could under present circumstances be raised. The last attempt was made in 1870, when, upon the rumour of Belize being threatened by the Ycaichés, a few volunteers enrolled themselves for the protection of the town. No sooner, however, had the scare subsided than they ceased to operate together, although every effort was made by the Colonial Secretary, Captain Mitchell, R.M., who undertook to perfect them in their drill, and although, with a view to give the movement a permanent character in the Colony, I declared my readiness to offer prizes for the best shooting, and, from the Government store, to supply the force with arms. Some excuse for an absence of public spirit is to be found in the circumstances of the place and people. The fraction of the community which represents its intelligence and better active qualities is infinitesimally small, and has enough to do in the struggle for its daily bread; while the tropical climate must tell upon the energies of all.

Public Works.

21. Of the works already undertaken when the year commenced, or which had been sanctioned at that date, the most important were connected with the further progress of the gaol wall, including the construction of a zinc roofed palisade, partly of masonry work and partly of strong and lofty wooden railings, as the fourth side of the wall towards the sea, and also certain necessary offices appertaining to the gaol. The expenditure involved in carrying out these improvements is estimated at 2,200*l.* from first to last, of which sum 511*l.* 6*s.* were spent in 1872, and 1,368*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, spread over several years, had been expended on the 31st December last. These walls have yet to be plastered and capped. (2.) The new public hospital, estimated to cost 1,688*l.* 10*s.*, on which 383*l.* 6*s.* had been expended at the close of 1872. (3.) A gatekeeper's lodge, inside the walls of the gaol, the estimated cost 108*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, and the amount expended to

date of 31st December, 37*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* The smaller works consisted of repairs or additions to various public buildings, or were of the nature of providing for the upkeep of the streets and roads; the total expenditure in 1872 being 1,543*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.*

22. Many urgent works perforce stood over, the public embarrassments of the Colony being considered to have a prior claim upon the revenue. Among those works, and setting aside any general scheme of opening road communications with the far interior, or any project of placing steamers on the rivers, or of constructing fortified barracks, may be enumerated the reconstruction of the court-house, estimated to cost 3,500*l.*; a new Government house, estimated to cost 3,000*l.*; a lunatic asylum, estimated to cost 1,200*l.*; and a poor-house, for which no estimate has yet been framed.

23. In the coming year (1873) some heavy repairs must be executed upon the light houses, the council chamber, and the court-house wharf, and connected structures; while the decay of many of the public buildings must, if possible, be arrested, by means of an expenditure trifling, perhaps, in each separate case, but in the aggregate as heavy as the revenue can bear.

Legislation.

24. Of the thirty-five laws passed in 1872, the more important were—

Ordinance No. 11, amending the Masters' and Servants' Act (18 Vict., c. 12) to the extent of rendering its provisions applicable to the case of contracts of service made *out of the Colony*. This amendment has had the effect of enabling the planters and others to very materially increase their supply of labour—a number of workmen having been introduced from Jamaica upon the engagement for one year as sanctioned by the older law.

Ordinance No. 12, providing for periodical sittings of the Supreme Court at Corosal, in the Northern District.

Ordinance No. 22, enacting a tariff law, with duration for three years from the 1st of August last. This measure imposes certain import and excise duties upon articles enumerated in the schedule, and ad valorem duty of 10 per cent. upon all imports not specially enumerated, with the allowance in the latter case of a drawback of corresponding amount upon imports that shall thereafter be exported.

Ordinance No. 23, authorizing the amalgamation of the Crown with the general revenue.

Ordinance No. 24, enabling the Lieutenant-Governor to nominate a surveyor or surveyor-general, to have charge of the Crown lands.

Ordinance No. 25, disestablishing the Protestant Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church from the first day of the present year (1873), and disendowing the same Churches as vacancies occur. This law repeals Ordinance 15 of 1871, which was returned, during my brief absence, that the 10th and 13th sections might be altered in the direction of acknowledging the validity of the existing Letters Patent, under which the Colony of British Honduras forms part of the diocese of Jamaica. My Report upon the legislation of the earlier half of the year 1871, presented a somewhat detailed account of the leading provisions of Ordinance 15 of that year; but I was glad of having

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the opportunity of replacing it, upon consideration, by the Ordinance 25 of 1872, wherein, while increased regard is had to the interests of the Free Episcopal Church of the future, in respect of, so to speak, its temporalities, every effort has been made to provide, with simplicity, yet sufficient minuteness, for the easy working of the machinery necessary to the coming changes, so soon as, in some cases promptly, in others gradually, it shall have been set in motion. What has already been done under the law, and with the knowledge of the Government, is this:—Commissioners to manage the Church funds were at once appointed in conformity with section 6, and the lay members having been elected as provided by section 11, a first synod, at which the Bishop of Kingston was present, was held in November last. As regards the Presbyterian Church, the Government connection therewith has always been limited to securing to the minister the payment from public funds of his stipend of 300*l.* a year—an obligation that would be cancelled whenever the present minister saw fit to retire on pension (vide section 4.)

Ordinance No. 27, being the appropriation ordinance for 1873:—

Ordinance No. 30, authorizing the sale by retail of wines, spirits, &c., not to be consumed on the premises. The intention of this measure was to induce shopkeepers, not being tavern keepers, to sell a better description of wines and spirits than could be procured in the taverns. The licence is of the nature of a grocer's wine licence in England. The Secretary of State having suggested that additions should be made to the law, requiring that any applicant for a shop liquor-licence, or for its renewal, should obtain a certificate of good character from two or more justices of the peace, and that there should be a limit placed upon the hours within which liquor might be sold, an ordinance in aid of Ordinance No. 30, has been passed in furtherance of his lordship's views.

Ordinance 31, declaring the duties and reducing the salary of the civil surgeon in the Northern District. This, in proportion to the services required of the holder, was hithorte an overpaid office. The salary thenceforth is at the rate of 100*l.* a year.

Ordinance 33, reviving the recently expired law which provided for the re-admission, free of duty, of goods upon which a local import duty had once been paid.

Ordinance 34, being a supplementary supply ordinance—the necessity for which was mainly occasioned by unforeseen expenditure arising out of the September Indian raid.

Ordinance 35, for regulating the management and sale of the Crown lands. This law contains provisions for the sale of Crown lands, by public auction, and also for granting leases and licenses under certain conditions, where a sale is not expedient or the purchase is not desired. It also provides that a survey shall in every case precede a sale, that the upset price is to be regulated by instructions received from time to time from the Secretary of State, but that until further notice, it shall be at the rate of five shillings an acre for country lots, and not less than 5*l.* an acre for town lots, that no lot shall be sold for a less sum than five shillings, that remissions of the purchase money may be allowed to officers of the Army and Navy when bonâ fide intending settlers, that free grants may be issued to

discharged soldiers of the West India Regiments desirous of settling or already settled in the Colony, that Indian and Charib villages shall be reserved under Government protection for the use of the Indians and Charibs, that reservations may in all cases be made for public purposes, and, if thought desirable, may be subsequently revoked, that compensation shall be given for private lands whenever required for public purposes, that in lieu of a money compensation public lands may in such cases be exchanged for private lands if the owner of the latter should consent, that arbitrators shall assess the value in any disputed case of valuation between the Crown and private persons, that mines and precious metals shall be reserved to the Crown, that persons in unlawful occupation shall be liable to a penalty, and in case of persistent occupation to a further penalty, that if the Lieutenant-Governor thinks fit, a person in unlawful occupation may be allowed to bid for the land at its estimated improved value, when, should he become the purchaser, the improved value shall be allowed to him, in settling for the land, as though it had been paid, or, should he fail to become the purchaser, the amount of the improved value shall be paid to him by the highest bidder; and it further provides for the recognition of all claims under the tenures locally known as locations and grants, where sufficient proof of their validity shall be adduced. The sections relating to leases and licences are very comprehensive and precise. I will here express the hope of good results being secured by the enactment of this measure, of a stop having thereby been put to many irregularities and frauds, and of the way being prepared for the profitable sale or other treatment of the Crown property in land, and the produce of land, whenever enterprise and a larger population shall give them local value.

25. The proclamations worthy of notice during 1872 were respectively dated the 3rd and 30th of September,—the earlier proclamation placing the Northern District under martial law, in consequence of the Indian raid of the 1st September, and the latter, notifying that martial law had ceased to be in force within the Northern District.

Education.

26. The progress of education is slow, indeed, all but imperceptible in British Honduras, on account of the little store set by it on the part of the wholly uneducated Creole parents, and also on account of the money to be made by children and young persons, however ignorant and unhandy, almost as soon as they can walk. Whatever is being done, whatever *can* be done at this time, is rudimentary and provisional; the hope of better things must be deferred, and any elaborate machinery, of the nature of professional school-inspection, would, as things are found, be simply thrown away.

27. There are eight schools in Belize receiving Government aid, and two at Corosal. An attempt to establish a school at Orange Walk has more than once been made, but owing to the smallness of the population, and the unsettled state of the district, it has not yet succeeded. If even a small number of children could be brought together, and a competent teacher be induced to reside at Orange Walk, the Council of Education, which is in fact the Executive

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Council, would most gladly allot the usual capitation grant; but the order in which such a scheme can be worked must be this: there must first be created a sense of security from Indian outrage, upon which may be expected to follow an increased number of resident families, and then, no doubt, a school.

28. The grant in aid was withdrawn in 1872 from the Charib school in connection with the Roman Catholic Church at Stann Creek in the south, the resident priest, the Reverend Father Brindesi, having failed, after repeated representations, to secure the services of an English-speaking teacher, and to render any statement of the fees collected from the scholars. There is a prospect of the good priest being able to satisfy both these conditions within the next few months, and the moment that he does so the allowance will be renewed.

29. One of the regulations made by the Council of Education is to the effect that no grant in aid shall be allowed to any school in which what appears a sufficient sum is not collected in the shape of school fees for the purposes of the school, such sum being fixed, as a general rule, at not less than one-fourth of what the Government grant in aid would be, namely, fifty cents. or two shillings a-head per month upon the average monthly number of the older children attending the school, and twenty-five cents. for the younger children. This, I believe to be a wise condition, seeing that little as education is locally valued under any circumstances at the present hour, such a thing as a free gift of education would be absolutely valueless in native eyes.

30. The schools contain many little children and few big ones, the parents being glad to get rid of the former during the day, and making use of the latter as soon as they have any strength to work, long before they can have acquired any solid knowledge. In July last the Council decided to raise the standard of age, at both ends, compulsory in the one case and permissive in the other. Thenceforth no child is admissible under the age of three, but any child may remain at school until he or she has completed the age of fifteen years, fourteen having been the outside age before July.

31. The Lieutenant-Governor and the members of the Executive Council make a practice—a very good one, I think—of individually examining the schools from time to time, and of holding public examinations once a year. The honour thus done to the young people is not likely, I believe, to be wholly lost upon the old. It has also been my custom to distribute the prizes in the Council Chamber, in the presence of the assembled schools, and of as many of the public as by previous invitation could be persuaded to attend. On the last occasion, before the re-assembling of the schools in January, a school treat was organized by public subscription, and as much *éclat* as possible given to the proceedings. It is in the direction of this official and general recognition of the duty we owe to the young that, for the present at least, we must look for encouraging results. In the northern district the examinations are held by the paid magistrate, the highest civil authority in the place, who reports to the Council.

32. The amount expended on education during the year was 1,334*l.* 19*s.*, of which the sum of 893*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* represented the Government grant in aid, and 373*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* the voluntary contribu-

tions (in the shape of school fees). The average daily attendance throughout 1872 is returned at 790, but of this number two-thirds may be classed as infants. All the grant-in-aid schools are denominational, consisting in Belize of 1 Anglican, 1 Roman Catholic, 3 Wesleyan, 1 Presbyterian, and 2 Baptist schools, and at Corosal of 1 Roman Catholic and 1 Wesleyan. Five private schools appear in the return; this entry meaning no more than that a few pupils of a better class, mostly girls, are being educated privately and separately by five ladies.

33. Of the annual apportionment of 1,000*l.* to the purposes of education, there remained unexpended on the 31st of December last, from 1872 and previous years, the sum of 965*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*; but this amount was made up of balances of several years, the expenditure of last year having, as already stated, been 893*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, and the balances being, by the Act 31 Vict., c. 10, continued to the credit of the head of service, *education*. The payment of 1,000*l.* appears, therefore, as a matter of account only, and not, necessarily, as an actual payment, in the statement of expenditure from year to year.

Imports and Exports.

34. The year's imports were of the value of 167,809*l.*, being a decrease of 12,853*l.* compared with 1871. Of the total value, the imports from the United Kingdom amounted to 113,574*l.* 4*s.* 0*d.*, against 125,379*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* in 1871, showing that of the gross decrease the falling-off in the imports from the mother country accounts for all but a little over 1,000*l.*

35. The value of the exports, including articles brought to the Colony for a particular market, or in search of a market, but not produced or manufactured in the Colony—described as articles in transit—was 203,560*l.*, against 207,672*l.* 2*s.* in 1871; decrease, 4,112*l.* 2*s.* As, however, the value of the export trade *in the products of the Colony* was greater by 8,739*l.* than in the previous year, the decrease will be seen to have attached to the transit trade, which, in point of fact, fell off by 12,851*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, having suffered from the political disturbances in the adjoining States, and also in some degree from the suspension of the railway works at Puerto Çaballos or Cortez. Owing, doubtless, to this temporary depression, the value of the exports to the United Kingdom fell to 105,898*l.*, from 116,119*l.* 4*s.* in 1871. Upon the whole import and export trade of the Colony, amounting to 371,369*l.*, the difference in favour of exports was 35,751*l.* In my Report for 1870, I observed that the inter-colonial trade was then insignificant; and that such it still remains is evident from the fact that, during 1872, the only business transaction between Honduras and any other of the Colonies of Great Britain was in imports from Jamaica to the paltry value of 197*l.* 8*s.* It is not unlikely that the regular steam communication now re-established between Kingston and Belize will gradually improve the trading relations of Honduras with one or more of its West-Indian neighbours. The imports from the United States, valued at 42,497*l.* 4*s.*, fell off about 4,714*l.*, but, on the other hand, the exports to that country exceeded those of 1871 by 10,708*l.*, the figures being for

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1871, 22,994*l.* 12*s.*, and for 1872, 33,703*l.* 4*s.* The Colony derives its supply of bread-stuffs and lumber from the United States, and the produce it usually sends them consists of sugar, mahogany, logwood, cedar, and rosewood. The other countries from which the imports came in 1872, were Guatemala, 4,643*l.* 12*s.*; Spanish Honduras, 3,564*l.*; Yucatan, 1,182*l.* 16*s.*; Cuba, 1,065*l.* 8*s.*; Mexico Proper, 1,044*l.* 12*s.*; and Nicaragua, 39*l.* 16*s.* Of these, Yucatan had not been represented at all in 1871, while the only disappearance from the list of contributors in 1871, was France, whence, however, the imports in that year were valued at no more than 77*l.* Mexico showed a falling-off of 1,425*l.*, but increased activity was evinced in the import trade with the other Central American States and with Cuba.

36. In regard to the export trade the order of custom was as follows: — (1) United Kingdom, 105,898*l.*; (2) Spanish Honduras, 41,443*l.*; (3) United States, 33,703*l.* 4*s.*; (4) Guatemala, 10,256*l.* 12*s.*; (5) Mexico, 6,750*l.*; (6) Nicaragua, 4,839*l.*; (7) Cuba, 400*l.*; (8) Yucatan, 150*l.* 4*s.*; and (9) Colon (Isthmus of Panama), 120*l.* Of the countries named in the foregoing list, a smaller export business was done with the United Kingdom, Spanish Honduras, and Guatemala, and a larger with the United States, Mexico, and Nicaragua; while Cuba, Yucatan, and Colombia had not taken any of the exports of the colony in 1871. One European customer it lost, and that was France, to which, in the earlier year, there had been an export of logwood valued at 1,659*l.* 14*s.* The sugar exported rose from 1,961 tons in 1871 to 2,203 tons in 1872; the mahogany from 1,983,120 feet to 2,239,349 feet; cedar from 71,289 feet to 97,893 feet; rosewood from 134 tons to 174 tons; and cocoa-nuts from 272,454 to 329,532. Logwood fell off, as did also rum; but 358 tons of fustic were exported against a blank return for 1871, and 51 tons of ziricote, a cabinet maker's wood, formed a new article of export.

37. It is to be always borne in mind that the system of valuation adopted represents little more than the estimated worth of the various articles in the market *here;* or, in other words, that the calculation is not attempted to be based upon the probable selling price of the exports in the English and foreign markets. If this were done, a result more favourable to the value of the export as contrasted with that of the import trade would be obtained.

Shipping.

38. The number of vessels entered at the port of Belize—the only trading port—during 1872 was 379, of which 274 arrived with cargoes and 105 in ballast. Their tonnage was 32,345 tons, and their crews numbered 2,036. The nationality of the vessels was—British 329, Spanish Honduras 14, Dutch 7, United States of America 5, Norwegian 5, French 4, Spanish 4, Mexican 4, German 2, Swedish 2, Colombian 2, and Costa Rican 1. Those of the adjoining States were mostly coasters of from 2 to 40 tons. Large vessels arriving in ballast off the port come, as a rule, for cargoes of mahogany, logwood, and sugar; and, also as a rule, from Europe. Of this class of

shipping, there were 17 more arrivals than in 1871. The number of vessels cleared was 367, of which 297 had cargoes, as compared with 259 in 1871, and 70 left the port in ballast against 103 in that year.

Agriculture.

39. A drought of long duration injured the cane crop in some parts of the Colony, but in other districts the yield was above the average, while the quality of the sugar was everywhere such as to command a ready and profitable sale. The estates of Seven Hills and Regalia (All Pines) in the southern district of the colony, belonging to Messrs. Young, Harrison and Bevan, and managed with the greatest possible judgment, produced 1,304 tons from 675 acres of cane. All that district (excluding the Pine ridge) and many parts of the north possess a soil of unsurpassed depth and richness, and, had labour been more abundant, must have been brought under cultivation long ago. The day will undoubtedly come when the advantages offered to the agriculturist by the soil and climate of the British portion of Central America will attract attention, when capital will be largely introduced, and a part of it of necessity be expended in obtaining labour from abroad—either from the border states, if existing hindrances should have ceased to operate, or else from India or China.

40. The upset price per acre of Crown land throughout the rural districts has recently been fixed at 5*s*.

41. Without at all intending to unduly magnify the prospective merits of Honduras, I would have it remembered that here are no hurricanes, no earthquakes, and no frequently-recurring visitations of cholera or fever, or other deadly form of pestilence. The sole present drawback, beyond the Indian difficulty on the north-western frontier, is the smallness of the population. A distinguished French writer, M. H. Blerzy, in recently reviewing Sir C. Adderley's work on the Colonial policy of Great Britain, has described British Honduras as a "province à laquelle il ne manque qu'un plus grand nombre de citoyens pour devenir aussi prospère que le Cap de Bonne-Espérance ou l'Australie," with less, I think, of exaggeration than people unacquainted with the natural resources of the colony would readily admit. For such people it still remains, in 1873, what in the early days of the settlement it indubitably was—"une exploitation forestière," and nothing more.

Gaols and Prisoners.

42. The committals to the Belize gaol, in 1872, numbered 97, of which 3 were of persons committed for debt, 21 of prisoners awaiting trial or committed for want of security, and 73 of persons under sentence of a court of justice, and subjected to imprisonment either with or without hard labour. Of the total number, 3 had been convicted once before, and 1 twice. The daily average number in the gaol was 41·7, and the daily average on the sick list 2·3. Only one death occurred during the year, the general sanitary state of the prisoners continuing good. In this gaol are fifty-two cells, and the occasions

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would be rare when, from want of space, more than one male prisoner was placed in any one cell. When such an event happens, the arrangement is that three prisoners shall be confined together. The prisoners are divided into two classes, the first consisting of men sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for any term not less than twelve months, and the second of all the other prisoners. The minimum period for which any first-class prisoner must remain in that class is two months; but male prisoners "sentenced to penal servitude" are kept in the first-class for nine months of their time, and any prisoner may be returned into the first-class for a gaol offence. Shot-drill is now enforced in the case of all first-class prisoners physically capable of undergoing this punishment, having been introduced by my directions in the year 1871. First-class prisoners are never employed outside the walls of the gaol. When not engaged upon shot-drill, their labour consisted of stone-breaking, digging mud from the sea-face of the gaol premises (to deepen the approach, and to raise the level of the gaol yard), making concrete blocks for building the new hospital, tailoring, mat and mocassin-making, &c. The second-class prisoners were set to making and repairing roads and other public works, cutting firewood for prison purposes, sweeping the town, and cleaning the Government grounds and buildings. The punishments inflicted for gaol offences were, solitary confinement, with diet of bread and water (114); extra shot-drill (23); corporal punishment (the cat, 10; the birch-rod, 2); and an additional term of imprisonment (1).

43. Good-conduct marks, entitling to remissions of portions of their sentences, are allowed in the Belize gaol, but only to prisoners sentenced to penal servitude or hard labour for one year or upwards. The magistrates' reports of the state of the small prisons at Corosal and All Pines, the former in the northern and the latter in the southern district, show that at Corosal the daily average number in prison was 5 and a fraction; 226 persons, however, were committed to the prison for purposes of penal imprisonment, of whom 224 were sentenced for periods of less than three months, mostly for breaches of labour contract, and the other two for less than a year. When prisoners in the districts are committed for over three months, they are sent to the Belize gaol. Two men were convicted of murder in the northern district, of whom one was left for execution. No other death occurred in the prison at Corosal. At All Pines, which is rather a lock-up than a prison, the daily average number in custody was under 1. The committals numbered 38, of which 4 underwent penal imprisonment, and for periods not exceeding three months. It remains to be stated that but 5 females were imprisoned in Belize, 15 at Corosal, and none at All Pines, in 1872; and that the cost of the three establishments was, respectively, 1043*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*, 248*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, and 47*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*, exclusive of salaries and of the expenditure upon the various buildings. The returns for the Orange Walk prison are not forthcoming, all the records having been burnt during the raid; but the daily average of persons in confinement there would be approximately represented by the figure 2.

Hospitals, Lunatic Asylums, and Charitable Institutions.

44. The number of patients remaining in the public hospital at the beginning of last year was six, 4 males and 2 females. The admissions during the year numbered 101, 93 being males and 8 females—the daily average exceeding 6. 83 were discharged cured, and 13 died. The prevailing maladies were intermittent fever, rheumatism, ulcers, wounds, syphilis, and consumption. No case of yellow fever or small-pox was under treatment in 1872.

45. The lunatic asylum received 5 new patients, 2 being males and three females. The daily average number under treatment was 15 and a fraction; and 2 were discharged, 1 cured, and 1 relieved. No deaths occurred.

46. The poorhouse contained 12 aged or infirm persons (10 males and 2 females), when the year commenced, and 12 (10 males and 2 females) when it closed. Four persons were admitted during the year, and 4 died. Besides these resident objects of the public charity, 37 persons received out-door relief during the year, at the rate of 2*s.* each per week. Of these, 2, both females, were placed on the treasurer's list in 1872; 4 died, and 1 was admitted into the public hospital. It is well to add that frequent visits were paid by me to all these institutions, to satisfy myself from personal inspection that whatever improvements had suggested themselves from time to time were carried out. The visiting justices and the Colonial Secretary were in like manner unremitting in the discharge of their important duties.

Conclusion.

47. Everything went peaceably with the Colony until the 1st of September last, when a descent in force was made upon the little town of Orange Walk by the Ycaiché tribe of Indians, under the leadership of General Don Marcos Canul. Although surprised, the soldiers of the 1st West India Regiment, assisted by a few courageous policemen and civilians, most nobly stood their ground, and before the day had closed the Indians were in full retreat.

48. No pretext was alleged for this attack, during which several of our people were killed, and many wounded. On the Ycaiché side the loss in killed and wounded has not been accurately ascertained, but it is believed to have been greatly in excess of our own, and it included their General Don Marcos Canul, who died a few days, some say hours, after their retreat.

49. The garrison at Orange Walk has since been strengthened, the police force has been augmented, and the civil duties of the station and district have been placed in charge of the officer in out-post command. It is further contemplated to erect some strong defensive works at Orange Walk, and it may even shortly be resolved to make Corosal the head-quarters of the detachment serving in Honduras, so as to bring the military supports within easy reach of any threatened point within the northern district.

50. These precautions, supplemented by improved communications by road and river, will suffice, it is hoped, to offer effectual resistance

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to any hostile demonstration, whether made by Indians on their own account, for purposes of pillage, or instigated from political motives by an unfriendly Government whose orders they obey.

51. I trust that the revenue of the Colony may suffice to meet these heavy charges; but it cannot be overlooked that such additions to the ordinary expenditure must shut out from present consideration many works and projects of a peaceful kind.

52. The contract concluded with the Royal Mail Company took effect in March, 1872, the English mails for Belize having been despatched on the 18th of that month from Southampton viâ Jamaica, and the return mails having left Belize for Southampton by the same route on the 16th of the following month. In my report for the year 1869 I referred to this line of communication with the mother country as more natural and convenient, and as likely to insure greater punctuality, than the New York or any other route; and it is satisfactory to be able to add that the Royal Mail Company's arrangements for carrying the Colonial mails, and also for conducting the passenger and goods traffic, during the nine months of their contract in 1872, were admirable in every respect. The arrivals and departures of the monthly steamer, a most comfortable vessel, are so timed as to give the Honduras public four days, invariably, wherein to answer English letters, and the English public two days, as a rule, wherein to answer Honduras letters.

53. The political disturbances in the neighbouring Republics of Guatemala and Spanish Honduras caused an influx of disaffected persons into the Colony from various parts of those States, and also of refugees from Ruatan. As many as a thousand of the Bay Islanders arrived in Belize within a week, among them two successive Governors of Ruatan, who had been forced to abdicate and fly. Every care was taken of these timorous people, and private charity provided the more destitute with food and clothes. In a short time confidence being re-established, in consequence of the new Government of Spanish Honduras having given the assurance that the lives and property of loyal citizens would be protected, the Islanders, but not the Governors, returned.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant,
W. W. CAIRNS.

Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B.

(No. 53) Government House, Belize,
SIR, April 4, 1873.

With reference to my Despatch No. 50 of the 31st ultimo, covering the Blue Book for 1872, I have the honour to submit a copy of a memorandum addressed to me by the Treasurer, in explanation of the difference to be noticed between the totals of the revenue and expenditure of 1872, as given in his annual statement (appended to

my Despatch No. 24 of the 8th February last) and as entered in the "comparative yearly statement" which forms a part of the contents of the Blue Book itself.

2. Mr. Graham has satisfactorily accounted for what might otherwise appear to be an error in one or other of the two statements.

I have &c.,

Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B. (Signed) W. W. CAIRNS.

The Treasurer to The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

Memorandum.

In answer to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor's note "That the Blue Book statement does not agree with the annual statement, whether as regards the totals of receipts or of expenditure," I beg to report as follows:—

	Total Revenue.		
	£	s.	d.
In Blue Book - - - - -	38,719	14	6
„ Annual Return - - - - -	38,669	2	6
This difference - -	£50	12	0

is accounted for from the fact that in the Blue Book, under head "Commissioners of Roads," the actual amount of receipts for rents of the Hanloren Ferry are shown (50*l.* 12*s.*) as has been the usual custom when compiling the Blue Book, and in the Annual Return on the Revenue side it is not shown. But on the expenditure side of the Return there appears an amount to Commissioners of Roads of 205*l.* 10*s.* which is explained thus:—

	£	s.	d.
Actual Expenditure - - - - -	256	2	0
Less rent of Ferry - - - - - -	50	12	0
	£205	10	0

nett as above. Again—

	Total Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.
In Blue Book - - - - - -	29,350	15	11
„ Annual Return - - - - -	29,218	15	8
This difference - -	£132	0	3

is to be accounted for from the annual grant to education of 1,000*l.* being shown in the Blue Book as has been customary, and in the Returns the actual expenditure alone appears (918*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*), and also that the gross expenditure of Commissioners of Roads, 256*l.* 2*s.*, appears in Blue Book, and the nett expenditure, 205*l.* 10*s.*, in the Annual Return, thus—

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EXPENDITURE.

	Blue Book. £	s.	d.	Annual Return. £	s.	d.
Education - - - - -	1,000	0	0	918	11	10
Commissioners of Roads - -	256	2	0	205	10	0
	1,256	2	0	£1,124	1	10
	1,124	1	10			
	£132	0	2			

The difference of 1*d.* between these two results is caused from the difficulty of reducing the local currency ($: cts.) to its exact equivalent in British sterling.

(Signed) THOS. GRAHAM.
Treasury, Belize, April 4, 1873. Treasurer.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

No. 11.

No. 11.

Lieutenant-Governor ROBINSON to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

(No. 25.) Government House,
MY LORD, May 9, 1873.

REFERRING to my Despatch No. 15 of the 12th ult., I have now the honour to submit the following Tables:—

1. Comparative statement of revenue for 1870 and 1871.
2. Comparative statement of expenditure for 1870 and 1871.
3. Statement of revenue and expenditure for the last eleven years.
4. Comparative statement of goods imported, and duties collected thereon, for 1870 and 1871.

2. Having last year reported at considerable length on the general condition of the Colony, I need only observe, on this occasion, that the accompanying returns exhibit a steady improvement, financial as well as commercial, and that the prospects of the Island are now bright and encouraging.

3. The first sod of the railway was turned on the 5th October, 1871. The line, as I stated last year, is to run from Charlottetown eastward to Georgetown and Souris, and westward to Summerside, Alberton, and Tignish, being a total length of two hundred miles. The contractors are doing their work well, and making satisfactory progress. It is expected that the cars will run between this and Summerside before the end of the year, the whole work having to be completed and handed over to the Government by the 7th September, 1874.

I have, &c.,
The Earl of Kimberley, (Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON,
&c. &c. &c. Lieutenant-Governor.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of REVENUE, in STERLING.

Source.	1870. £	s.	d.	1871. £	s.	d.
Impost duties	46,225	11	9	63,463	5	5
Light and anchorage duties	753	15	7	581	2	11
Land assessments	3,081	17	4	2,898	3	4
Public lands sold	8,063	19	11	6,619	4	5
General Post Office	1,566	13	4	1,653	6	8
Fees, Colonial Secretary's office	157	19	7	210	16	8
„ Registry office	260	12	4	361	9	6
„ Custom-house	35	6	0	31	13	2
„ Bonded warehouse	90	10	0	42	18	10
„ Land assessment	2	13	6	2	14	3
„ Prince of Wales College	33	12	2	30	13	7
Fines and penalties	77	19	6	63	8	4
Casual interest on Bonds	992	0	0	1,184	1	5
Wharfage	56	0	2	79	4	3
Rent of wharves	110	13	4	187	0	8
Seed and grain Committee	67	0	4	1	6	8
Repayment of ammunition for military stores	26	4	6	2	7	11
Grant of shore, lot 12	3	6	8	—		
Sale of slack coal	2	6	5	—		
Moneys returned	34	0	6	4	6	6
Rent of Warren Farm	18	10	5	—		
Licences	487	6	8	397	0	0
Balance, moneys received under loans, Act 28 Vict. cap. 5	82	8	8	—		
Normal School	—			33	6	8
Difference of interest—Savings Bank	—			758	3	3
Hire and ferriage fees, steamer 'Ora'	—			231	9	4
Proceeds sales of six boxes-cents	—			123	5	9
Repayment of moneys advanced to distressed seamen	—			149	0	0
Seizures	—			3	1	10
Total	£62,230	8	8	£79,112	11	4

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE for the YEARS 1870 and 1871.

Particulars.	1870.			1871.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Education	—	12,811 9 10		—	12,915 6 2	
Road service	3,490 3 11	—		3,826 7 8	—	
Mail service	4,214 9 7	—		4,722 6 2	—	
Subsidy to Steam Navigation Company and packets	783 6 8	—		728 0 0	—	
Lighthouses	345 14 0	—		325 16 8	—	
		8,833 14 2			9,602 10 6	
Public buildings	1,231 2 5	—		1,161 6 8	—	
Gaols	135 13 5	—		225 15 7	—	
Poor Asylum	440 13 4	—		520 11 11	—	
Paupers, Indians and Deaf and Dumb	828 2 2	—		807 3 9	—	
Boards of Health	180 19 11	—		416 18 4	—	
Coroners' inquests	101 6 5	—		137 4 2	—	
		2,917 17 6			3,269 0 5	
Supreme Court	1,620 16 10	—		2,069 12 8	—	
Elections	586 13 7	—		105 14 8	—	
		2,207 10 5			2,175 7 4	
Public Lands Office	783 12 7	—		701 3 7	—	
Estates purchased	8,208 3 11	—		11,116 8 11	—	
		8,991 16 6			11,817 12 6	
Agricultural Society	637 11 6	—		646 13 4	—	
Telegraph Company	497 3 10	—		341 2 4	—	
		1,134 15 4			987 15 8	
Executive Council	312 3 7	—		349 16 0	—	
Legislature	2,666 4 2	—		3,153 11 0	—	
Public offices	2,897 7 3	—		2,643 6 2	—	
Public printing and stationery	1,091 0 7	—		1,007 9 10	—	
		6,966 15 7			7,145 3 0	
Impost and Excise	1,304 5 2	—		1,408 18 3	—	
Drawbacks	383 6 3	—		394 10 8	—	
Preventive officers	75 16 8	—		102 13 0	—	
		1,763 8 1			1,906 1 11	
Board of Works	14,006 6 6	—		16,093 15 3	—	
Defence of Colony	1,342 17 0	—		1,171 16 1	—	
Interest on debt	7,974 18 5	—		7,752 19 6	—	
Miscellaneous	1,711 4 10	—		6,302 7 7	—	
		25,035 6 9			31,320 18 5	
Total sterling	—	£ 70,662 14 2		—	81,139 15 11	
Government railway	—	—		—	2,333 6 8	
					£ 83,473 2 7	

STATEMENT of REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the COLONY of PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND for ELEVEN YEARS.

Years.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			Excess of ordinary Expenditure over ordinary Revenue.	Excess of ordinary Revenue over ordinary Expenditure.
	Ordinary.	From Lands.	Total.	Ordinary.	Purchase of Lands.	Total.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1861	24,919 6 9	3,086 19 5	28,006 6 2	31,807 10 4	992 7 3	32,799 17 7	6,888 3 7	—
1862	23,288 11 3	2,573 2 2	25,861 13 5	33,446 17 10	984 17 3	34,451 15 1	10,178 6 7	—
1863	38,269 17 10	3,522 11 9	41,792 9 7	33,964 17 6	2,476 11 6	36,441 9 0	—	4,305 0 4
1864	41,555 15 3	2,659 19 4	44,215 14 7	36,654 14 2	1,927 16 2	38,582 10 4	—	4,901 1 1
1865	41,258 14 3	4,102 1 9	45,360 16 0	48,619 11 3	2,014 0 11	50,633 12 2	7,360 17 0	—
1866	62,537 3 8	1,091 7 9	63,628 11 5	45,378 4 1	57,509 17 2	102,888 1 3	—	17,158 19 7
1867	43,287 0 1	8,730 5 9	52,017 5 10	46,124 16 8	3,183 13 11	49,308 10 7	2,837 16 7	—
1868	48,283 15 9	7,305 10 9	55,594 6 6	55,138 5 10	6,478 2 11	61,606 8 9	6,849 10 1	—
1869	53,967 16 4	5,358 10 10	59,326 7 2	52,991 14 4	11,253 2 0	64,244 16 4	—	976 2 0
1870	54,212 12 8	8,017 16 0	62,230 8 8	62,454 10 3	8,208 3 11	70,662 14 2	8,241 17 7	—
1871	72,546 8 9	6,566 2 7	79,112 11 4	65,692 16 2	*17,780 6 5	83,473 2 7	—	6,853 12 7

* The following are included in this item:—

	£ s. d.
Land purchased	11,116 8 11
Cent coinage	1,730 10 10
Railway	2,333 6 8
Steamer 'Ora'	1,266 13 4
Town corporation	1,333 6 8

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of GOODS IMPORTED

Articles.	1870. Quantity.	1870. Duty Collected in Sterling.	1871. Quantity.	1871. General Duty in Sterling.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Tea	424,418 lbs.	4,715 15 1	493,949 lbs.	5,488 6 5
Sugar	904,106 „	2,351 1 0	890,290 „	2,112 5 6
Coffee	7,872 „	52 12 5	10,119 „	62 3 11
Dried fruit	119,766 „	332 13 8	165,769 „	460 9 8
Tobacco	168,690½ „	2,052 0 8	159,966 „	2,036 10 7
Sole leather	108,822 „	302 5 8	145,416 „	403 18 8
Confectionery	24,790¼ „	275 9 0	34,334 „	381 9 11
Chocolate and cocoa	399 „	3 6 6	1,749 „	14 11 6
Almonds and nuts	294 „	2 9 0	741 „	6 3 6
Onions	32,291 „	32 5 11	52,335 „	52 6 9
Cheese	4,039 „	6 14 6	4,722 „	7 19 7
Flour and meal	13,616½ bls.	680 16 6	14,120 bls.	705 19 10
Bread	106,395 lbs.	35 9 5	104,504 lbs.	34 16 9
Salt meat	28 „	0 1 8	—	—
Molasses	183,567 galls.	2,039 12 7	195,333 galls.	2,170 7 3
Spirits of all kinds	91,821¼ „	11,180 8 2	140,092 „	13,382 0 1
Wines	4,156½ „	502 5 3	5,791 „	790 12 3
Ale and porter	4,667¼ „	64 16 6	5,898 „	81 18 3
Cider, syrups and cordials	1,915¼ „	50 19 9	3,525 „	108 18 1
Spirits manufactured from grain	7,630 „	127 3 4	5,234 „	94 1 9
Kerosene	60,299½ „	1,256 4 6	58,602 „	1,220 17 2
Tinctures	3¼ „	0 4 4	10 „	0 14 0
		26,064 15 5		29,616 11 5
Ad valorem	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Value at 1 per cent.	3,763 5 2	37 12 5	3,019 5 0	30 3 10
„ 2 „	19,369 6 11	386 15 7	20,742 11 8	414 16 0
„ 5 „	9,544 5 6	477 4 2	10,860 3 7	540 4 7
„ 11 „	151,481 16 8	16,663 0 10	194,673 5 0	21,414 1 1
„ 12½ „	21,134 19 1	2,641 16 8	27,038 3 4	3,379 15 11
„ 20 „	260 2 6	52 0 3	338 9 7	67 13 11
„ 25 „	234 15 8	58 14 0	621 1 7	155 5 4
„ 30 „	313 6 0	93 19 8	529 9 2	158 16 11
„ 2½ „	—	—	12,566 7 5	Exempt
Totals	£206,101 17 6	46,475 19 0	270,324 16 4	55,777 9 0

and DUTIES COLLECTED thereon for 1870 and 1871.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

1871.			Increase, 1871.		Decrease, 1871.	
Railway Duty in Sterling.	Totals. Duty in Sterling.		Quantity.	Amount.	Quantity.	Amount.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.		lbs.	£ s. d.	lbs.	£ s. d.
646 10 7	6,134 17 0		69,531	1,419 1 11	—	—
249 19 9	2,362 5 3		—	11 4 3	13,816	—
4 6 0	66 9 11		2,247	13 17 6	—	—
54 17 8	515 7 4		46,003	182 13 8	—	—
106 0 10	2,142 11 5		—	90 10 9	8,724½	—
166 14 2	570 12 10		36,594	268 7 2	—	—
25 14 0	407 3 11		9,543¾	131 14 11	—	—
1 6 5	15 17 11		1,350	12 11 5	—	—
0 11 3	6 14 9		447	4 5 9	—	—
4 5 11	56 12 8		20,044	24 6 9	—	—
3 0 11	11 0 6		683	4 6 0	—	—
320 19 1	1,026 18 11		503½	346 2 5	—	—
22 1 5	56 18 2		—	21 8 9	1,891	—
—	—		—	—	28	0 1 8
219 16 9	2,390 4 0		11,766	350 11 5	—	—
255 0 11	13,637 0 11		48,270¾	2,456 12 9	—	—
26 16 2	817 8 5		1,635½	315 3 2	—	—
17 15 6	99 13 9		1,230¾	34 17 3	—	—
16 17 11	125 16 0		1,609¾	74 16 3	—	—
Exempt	94 1 9		—	—	2,396	33 1 7
57 9 4	1,278 6 6		—	22 2 0	1,697½	—
0 5 3	0 19 3		6¾	0 14 11	—	—
2,200 9 9	31,817 1 2			5,785 9 0		33 3 3
			£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
72 2 10	102 6 8		—	64 14 3	744 0 2	—
507 14 7	922 10 7		1,373 4 9	535 15 0	—	—
262 9 7	802 14 2		1,261 18 1	325 10 0	—	—
4,777 4 2	26,191 5 3		43,191 8 4	9,528 4 5	—	—
642 9 11	4,022 5 10		5,903 4 3	1,380 9 2	—	—
8 9 3	76 3 2		78 7 1	24 2 11	—	—
14 17 11	170 3 3		386 5 11	111 9 3	—	—
13 4 8	172 1 7		216 3 2	78 1 11	—	—
313 18 10	313 18 10		12,556 7 5	313 18 10	—	—
8,813 1 6	64,591 10 6		64,966 19 0	18,147 14 9	744 0 2	33 3 3

MALTA.

MALTA.

No. 12

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Sir C. T. VAN STRAUBENZEE to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Palace, Valletta, April 25, 1873.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book for the year 1872, and as I consider that the Report accompanying it should be forwarded in future in a more full and detailed form than hitherto sent, I have requested the Chief Secretary, Sir Victor Houlton, to append a few remarks for your Lordship's further information.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) C. T. VAN STRAUBENZEE, Governor.

Enclosure in No. 12.

Enclosure in No. 12.

Chief Secretary's Office, Valletta, 23 April, 1873.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward to your Excellency the annual Blue Book for the year 1872, appending a few remarks for your Excellency's information.

Legislation.

The following six Ordinances passed during 1872, viz.:—

1. For applying a sum not exceeding 20,680*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* to the service of the year 1871 (giving effect to the supplementary estimates of 1871).
2. For applying a sum not exceeding 104,873*l.* 10*s.* to the service of the year 1873 (giving effect to the general estimates of 1873).
3. To amend the code intituled Laws and Regulations of Police.
4. For making certain provisions for the examination of witnesses in regard to criminal matters pending before a court out of the Island of Malta and its Dependencies.
5. For exempting the Cathedral Church of Gozo from the obligation of selling certain landed property.
6. For the naturalization of Giovanni Lando.

Pensions.

The new pensions granted during the year 1872, amounted to 976*l.* 6*s.* 5½*d.*; and the Pension List has been relieved to the amount of 678*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*

The total expenditure under this head during the year 1872 has amounted to 13,148*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*, and that of the previous year (1871) amounted to 12,692*l.* 6*s.* 11½*d.*

Civil Establishments.

Two responsible situations have been vacated during the year 1872 by the death of Dr. Antonio Zammit, one of a magistrate of judicial police for Malta, and the other of inspector of the civil prison. To the former situation Dr. Guglielmo Rapinet was appointed, and to the latter Dr. Giovanni Camilleri.

Finance.

	£
The gross revenue for 1872 - - -	173,297
„ expenditure of 1872 - - - -	160,391
Balance to the credit of revenue -	£12,906

As compared with 1871 the revenue of 1872 shows an increase of 2,356*l.*

The average of the gross revenues of the five years immediately preceding 1872 was 163,409*l.*; gross revenue of 1872 was 173,297*l.*; more than the last quinquennial average, 9,888*l.*

The following are the principal items of increase:—

Exceptional Receipts.

1st. Proceeds of sale of dividends invested in 1868, 1,438*l.*; contribution from Imperial Government in aid of water supply in 1871, 8,000*l.*; total, 9,438*l.*; reducing the quinquennial average to 161,521*l.* And 2ndly. Compensation paid by the Imperial Government in 1872 towards the settlement of local claims in regard to the rental of French Creek property from 1866, 2,977*l.*; reducing the revenue of 1872 to 170,320*l.*

The increase in 1872, as compared with the quinquennial average, would thus be reduced to 8,799*l.*, and raised to 7,379*l.* as compared with 1871.

Ordinary Sources.

Customs receipts (increase attributable to the working of the amended tariffs of import duties, store rent, and tonnage dues introduced by Ordinance No. VIII. of 1871), 5,203*l.*; quarantine dues, 654*l.*; collection of arrears of property administered by Government, 784*l.*; fines, forfeitures, and fees of court, 602*l.*; total, 7,243*l.*

Public Works.

The total expenditure under this head during the year 1872 has amounted to 30,364*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*

No public works of any importance have been undertaken further than the construction of twenty additional single-bedded rooms in the Lunatic Asylum for violent and dangerous patients, and repairs in Government property damaged by a storm in December, 1871.

Many useful works which had been commenced in previous years, have been completed. The principal ones are: the construction of additional cells in the Corradino civil prison,—the construction of

MALTA.

18 grain fosse at Floriana, the construction of police stations, boat-slips, and a ship-building yard in the Harbour Extension, and the construction of a tank near the public cemetery "Dell' Addolorata."

The planting of trees has been carried on in different parts of the Island, and works in connection with the increase of water supply have also been effected.

Several roads in the country of Malta and Gozo have been reconstructed in consequence of damages caused by heavy rains.

Many repairs in other roads of minor importance have also been effected.

Military Expenditure.

The total cost of the military establishment for the year 1872 amounted to 282,571*l.*, of which the Colony has borne 6,200*l.*

Education.

The total expenditure under this head, in 1872, amounted to 9,325*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*

Two new schools, one for boys, and the other for girls, were established at Casal Zebbug, in Gozo; thus the total number of primary schools at the end of 1872, was—In Malta, 27 for boys, 27 for girls; in Gozo, 7 for boys, 7 for girls; besides the University, 2 Lyceums, 6 infant schools (3 for boys, and 3 for girls), a school of secondary instruction for girls at Malta, and another for boys at Gozo.

The average number of scholars attending the schools in 1872 amounted to 8,037.

Savings Banks.

The total sum deposited in the Savings Bank amounted, on the 31st December, 1872, to—Malta, 160,281*l.* 11*s.* 4¾*d.*, by 2,987 depositors; Gozo, 7,742*l.* 2*s.* 4½*d.*, by 191 depositors; total, 168,023*l.* 13*s.* 9¼*d.* by 3,178 depositors; showing an increase over the deposits at the end of 1871 of 1,309*l.* 11*s.* 8¼*d.* in Malta; 417*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.* in Gozo; total, 1,726*l.* 12*s.* 5¼*d.*

Population.

The population on the 31st December, 1872, was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Malta - - -	62,289	63,628	125,917
Gozo - - -	8,745	9,137	17,882
	71,034	72,765	143,799

These figures show an increase of 1,881, or 1·33 per cent., over the population as given on the 31st December 1871, and an increase of 7460, or 5·62 per cent., over the population of 1862.

The population to the square mile is (exclusively of the Queen's troops) $1,250\frac{49}{115}$.

The total number of births was 5,227; marriages, 960; and deaths, 3,326.

Shipping.

The total number of vessels which entered this port during the year 1872 amounted to 4,212 (each arrival being reckoned), of an aggregate tonnage of 2,113,576 tons, viz.:—

	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - -	2,136	1,843,423
Sailing - - -	2,076	270,153
Total - -	4,212	2,113,576

The above numbers show, with regard to steamers, a considerable increase over the number of arrivals during the last ten years, viz.:—

	Arrivals of Steamers.	Tonnage.
In 1872 - - - -	2,136	1,843,423
„ 1862 - - - -	869	697,652
Increase in 1872 -	1,267	1,145,771

But with respect to the sailing vessels the case is different, a decrease being found on comparison as above, viz.:—

	Arrivals of Sailing Vessels.	Tonnage.
In 1862 - - - -	3,077	- 419,633
„ 1872 - - - - -	2,076	- 270,153
Decrease in 1872 -	1,001	- 149,480

As regards the shipping belonging to this port, 4 vessels, of an aggregate tonnage of 1,002 tons, have been reported as lost; and 11 vessels, of an aggregate tonnage of 578 tons, have been added; so that the total number of vessels on the 31st December, 1872, was 152, representing 30,722 tons.

General Remarks.

The health of these Islands was good throughout the year. A few cases of small-pox have occurred throughout the Island; but since the epidemic of 1871 this disease has nowhere reassumed the character of an epidemic, and at present there is but one case in hospital. The importance of carrying out vaccination to its fullest extent is thoroughly felt in Malta, and the law on this subject rigidly enforced. A special hospital has been segregated in the spacious buildings of the Lazaretto, and apart from the ordinary quarantine buildings, for small-pox and other contagious diseases, and it is to be fairly expected that by these preventive means any contagious disease which (as frequently happens) is imported into these Islands by passengers will be limited to the Lazaretto, and will not spread throughout the Island.

MALTA.

There have been some fever cases in the Island, and also an increase in the number of cases of diphtheria.

The state of the sewerage and drainage is now under the serious consideration of both Imperial and local Governments. In this matter there is still much to be done. The sewers, which are formed of and in the porous rock of this Island, do not fulfil the first principle of a good sewer, which is, that it should carry with all possible speed to its outfall whatever is conveyed into it; next, the connection of the house-drains with the sewers is specially faulty; and last, and by no means least, there remains the old and grave objection of the outfall of the sewer into the surface-water of either harbour, and in close vicinity to the inhabited houses around either of their shores. On this subject a considerable impulse has been given to early action, in consequence of the arrival at Malta during the current year of Mr. Fowler, C.E., Mr. Bramwell, Professor Owen, and Dr. Letheby. All these gentlemen gave, during their stay of some days in Malta, their undivided attention to this subject of vital importance to the best sanitary interests of the place; and Mr. Fowler's Report, with propositions of remedying the defect of the present system of sewerage and drainage, is looked for with anxiety.

A short time before the arrival of those gentlemen, Lord Clarence Paget and Mr. Reed (late Constructor of the Navy) visited the Island, in order to be present at the opening of an hydraulic dock, a valuable work, constructed by an English company independent of the local Government, supplementing the Island resources, adding to its industry, and tending to develop trade and commerce, which is the life-blood of the place; and whilst resident in the Island for this purpose, struck with the deplorable state of the postal communication between Malta and the United Kingdom, Mr. Reed, in connection with Mr. Emmerson, of the firm of Emmerson, Murgatroyd and Co., made an offer to the local Government of connecting Malta and Sicily by a service of tri-weekly posts, instead of the at present once-a-week postal communication, at an expenditure of 5,000*l.* a year to the Island, but with the power of making such arrangements with the Imperial Government for the conveyance of the home mail as might be arranged between the Imperial and local Governments, or 4,000*l.* without that power; but their tender has not up to present date been accepted. The actual state of the postal arrangements between Malta and the United Kingdom is most deplorable. Twenty years ago there was a direct communication once a week, viâ Marseilles, with the United Kingdom, in four days and a half; now there is none; and this last winter the P. and O. steamers, viâ Southampton, have suffered from severe weather, and have been frequently from 10 to 15 days en route to Malta; whilst the overland mail viâ Italy, at no time quicker than 7 days, has frequently been from 10 to 14 days bringing the overland mail.

The question of an eligible field for emigration is one of great interest, and is fully occupying the attention of the Government and public, and it is hoped that shortly some means will be found in a suitable climate, and under well-regulated legal enactments, to insure for those who are willing to emigrate both a remunerative field for labour and a suitable climate and locality for Maltese emigrants.

The population increases at the rate of 1,000 a year annually, whilst real emigration there is none; as many almost return each year from the African coast as leave Malta for it.

There has not been the slightest interruption to the perfect quiet and good order which is characteristic of these Islands.

I append to this Report, as a useful reference, a statistical view of Malta and its Dependencies for the last ten years.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) VICTOR HOULTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

His Excellency the Governor.

Statistical View of Malta and its Dependencies for the last Ten Years,—viz. 1863-1872.

Year.	Population.					Education.			Finance.				Sale of Public Sites.	
	Population on December 31st.	Military on December 31st.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Government Schools.		Private Schools.	Public Revenue.	Public Expenditure.	Savings Bank.		Extent.	Average value per acre.
						Schools.	Scholars.	Schools.			Depositors.	Amount of deposits on December 31st.		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	£	£	£	£	acres.	£
1863	137,761	7,607	4,585	844	3,163	67	6,118	145	157,831	163,074	1,847	87,945	5½	33
1864	139,146	7,784	4,934	1,067	3,549	67	6,245	133	169,065	162,918	2,027	102,050	4	50
1865	137,712	7,156	4,881	1,000	*6,315	67	6,369	147	168,374	167,818	2,277	117,200	7	40
1866	139,502	7,350	5,118	1,287	3,328	67	6,695	119	196,459	185,449	2,292	119,718	3⅓	53
1867	140,703	7,506	5,213	854	*4,107	67	7,081	128	164,571	182,263	2,436	129,753	3⅓	81
1868	141,320	7,404	4,481	881	*3,914	69	7,325	125	162,933	176,545	2,640	141,920	4	50
1869	143,003	7,092	5,283	889	3,600	69	7,548	135	157,760	165,674	2,881	160,254	6	50
1870	144,324	6,916	5,136	859	3,815	73	7,985	137	158,631	171,783	2,926	162,272	12⅓	18
1871	141,918	7,050	3,259	855	3,116	77	8,236	133	170,941	166,338	2,957	166,297	10½	21
1872	143,799	6,752	5,227	960	3,326	79	8,037	137	173,297	160,391	2,978	163,024	1½	28

* *Deaths.* During 1865 and 1867 cholera was prevalent in the Island.

Year.	Imports.*				Exports.†			
	From the United Kingdom.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To the United Kingdom.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1863	38,916	1,229	3,047,448	3,087,593	1,777,785	12,490	629,856	2,420,131
1864	39,880	605	1,721,999	1,762,484	625,402	219	378,696	1,004,317
1865	36,292	237	1,564,475	1,601,004	835,946	298	274,040	1,109,284
1866	26,809	320	1,824,391	1,851,520	898,681	205	425,610	1,324,496
1867	33,490	4,045	6,357,770	6,395,305	3,075,900	436,349	1,744,171	5,256,420
1868	60,614	1,090	7,161,045	7,222,749	4,152,737	425,226	2,643,367	7,221,330
1869	63,165	311	4,785,277	1,280,441	2,651,803	254,930	1,280,441	4,187,174
1870	65,724	155	4,031,390	4,097,269	2,090,366	195,702	1,341,626	3,627,694
1871	61,205	647	7,664,662	7,726,514	4,672,997	165,194	2,575,122	7,413,313
1872	55,814	4,415	8,922,141	8,982,370	6,198,317	495,330	1,744,679	8,402,326

* *Imports.* This Return includes only articles liable to duty.

† *Exports.* This Return includes only articles liable to import duty, which are exported in same bottoms, or from bond, or were trans-shipped. There are no means of officially stating what amount of such articles of island produce is exported, but the quantity, if any, is very small.

Year.	Shipping.													
	Vessels Inwards—each arrival reckoned.						Vessels Outwards—each departure reckoned.						Vessels belonging to the Port of Malta on December 31st.	
	Steam.		Sailing.		Total.		Steam.		Sailing.		Total.			
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1863	862	722,547	2,626	340,500	3,488	1,063,047	862	722,523	2,626	344,310	3,488	1,066,833	174	28,629
1864	906	754,099	2,796	366,669	3,702	1,120,768	901	750,852	2,758	362,897	2,659	1,113,749	170	28,922
1865	952	872,163	2,150	311,137	3,102	1,183,300	955	874,488	2,159	313,394	3,114	1,187,882	163	28,887
1866	884	844,089	2,778	351,176	3,662	1,195,265	884	842,051	2,747	338,689	3,631	1,180,740	154	27,845
1867	1,022	927,567	2,758	399,777	3,780	1,327,344	1,022	927,803	2,741	397,356	3,763	1,325,249	163	32,184
1868	1,316	1,045,743	3,109	479,003	4,425	1,524,746	1,316	1,043,232	3,149	480,737	4,465	1,523,969	156	29,591
1869	1,309	1,016,543	2,386	350,856	3,695	1,367,399	1,311	1,017,331	2,391	357,877	3,702	1,375,208	161	30,281
1870	1,409	1,140,631	2,535	357,617	3,944	1,498,248	1,406	1,138,495	2,541	353,552	3,947	1,492,047	158	32,302
1871	1,737	1,465,743	2,954	519,676	4,691	1,985,419	1,724	1,456,962	2,941	518,080	4,665	1,975,042	156	32,496
1872	2,136	1,843,423	2,076	270,153	4,212	2,113,576	2,137	1,842,942	2,124	281,435	4,261	2,124,377	152	30,722

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No. 12.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor BULWER to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Labuan,
January 10th, 1873.
(Received March 27th, 1873.)

MY LORD,

1. I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1871.

2. The revenue of the year amounted to 7,115*l.* The failure of the Coal Company to pay the amount due by them to the Crown for the annual rental of the mines must be noticed, for it unexpectedly deprived the revenue of an item of 1000*l.*, the receipt of which had been fully relied on.

3. The expenditure of the year amounted to 8,226*l.*

4. In the course of 1871, the Imperial troops, which had hitherto been stationed in the island, were withdrawn.

5. In order to provide a substitute for the military garrison, my predecessor raised and organized an armed police force, designed for both military and civil purposes, to take the place of regular troops in the defence of the island, and at the same time to discharge all the ordinary duties of a civil police.

6. An officer from the Ceylon Rifle Regiment was named chief-superintendent, and four constables were selected from the Irish constabulary for the appointments of sergeants in the new force.

7. The organization of the force, which was armed with the Snider rifle, and the strength of which was fixed at sixty-five of all ranks, was completed before my arrival; and the efficiency which it had attained in drill, and its discipline and good order, bore testimony to the care that had been taken in its formation, and to the aptitude of the men for the service for which they had been selected.

8. The establishment of this force has necessarily entailed upon the colony a larger police expenditure than formerly, while the withdrawal of a military garrison, which had for years in various ways materially helped the means and industries of a small community, has naturally been a loss to that community, and indirectly, to some extent, to the public revenue of the Colony.

9. The Colony, no longer receiving assistance from the Imperial Government, either in the shape of a Parliamentary grant in aid of its civil expenses, or of a military force for its protection, depends on its own resources for the means necessary to carry on its government, and provide for its defence and internal security.

10. The resources it at present possesses are—(1) its coal mines, and (2) its trade with the coast of Borneo.

11. As your Lordship is well aware, what enterprise has hitherto been directed to the mines has up to this time been unsuccessful. Although the mines have been held by one company or another for more than twenty years, and although during that period, with but one intermission in 1859 and 1860, pending the transfer of the mines

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from one company to another, mining operations of some sort have been conducted, there is positively no result to show at the end of all this time.

12. Coal, indeed, has been obtained, nor, except during the suspension of operations above referred to, has a single year passed without some yield of produce ; but so inconsiderable have these annual returns been, that they have seldom sufficed to meet current expenses, much less have they availed to make the undertaking profitable or remunerative ; whilst as for the original conception of the enterprise by which it was proposed to feed with coal from Labuan half the steam navigation of the East, the actual supply has never been more than enough to meet the wants of Her Majesty's ships on the station visiting the island, and of a few passing merchant steamers, and to furnish an occasional cargo for Singapore or Hong Kong.

13. The failure of so many years, and the abandonment of the enterprise by more than one company, have not only injured the Colony, the establishment of which in 1847 was due very much to the importance attached to its coal resources, and retarded its progress, but have prejudiced the reputation and the marketable value of the mines, for a conclusion has, perhaps not unnaturally, been drawn that the fault of failure lies in the mines, either that these do not possess the large resources for which they were given credit, or that local difficulties have been encountered in working them which have defeated every effort directed to their development.

14. Yet such a conclusion is most erroneous. On the contrary, there appears to be no doubt, and it could, I am persuaded, be abundantly shown, were it necessary to do so, by a review of all the proceedings connected with the mines, that the failure of the past is to be attributed to the conduct of the several enterprises ; partly also, it may be, to accidental circumstances ; but in no degree to the mines themselves, to any exceptional difficulties in their working, or to any peculiar local conditions.

15. The real cause of failure, I venture to think, is to be found in the general plan for working the coal-fields, which was adopted at the commencement, and has been pursued with little exception ever since.

16. There have, indeed, been errors of management in detail ; there has been unskilful direction in this or that particular working ; there has been sometimes extravagance or needless expenditure—at other times, a want of money when money was most needed, and in some instances an absence of proper machinery or other mining apparatus at critical times : but these have been only auxiliary or secondary causes of failure ; the cardinal fault has been in the general plan of operations.

17. The frequent occurrence of surface coal, which circumstance might have been considered the good fortune of the mines and of the companies that have held them, has in point of fact proved their misfortune. For it is this circumstance which has diverted every company from developing the resources lying at depth beneath the surface, which are the real resources of the coal-fields, and upon the proper development of which the success of any undertaking in them must depend.

18. The presence of this surface coal, it is true, held out many

inducements for working it. It was convenient of access; but comparatively small outlay was required to open it out; it could be worked with comparative facility; and it offered, moreover, the prospect of an immediate or almost immediate supply.

19. On the other hand, the process of winning the deep coal presented difficulties and delays. Shafts must be sunk; a larger and more costly stock of machinery and other material means would be required; a larger outlay would be involved; and a longer time would elapse before any return could be expected. But, once reached, the deep coal would secure advantages a thousandfold greater than any to be obtained from the surface coal, for in it a considerable and, using the term relatively, a *permanent* source of supply would be opened out, whilst at the surface the supply must, at the best, be inconsiderable and temporary.

20. The real advantage that the surface coal, and the easy access to it, offered to the undertaking was that it provided an immediate supply for immediate purposes. Such a supply would, for instance, be needed in the larger operations necessary for the development of the main resources of the mines, and the sale of whatever additional output could be got would, in the meanwhile, help to meet the preliminary outlay incurred in prosecuting the main work.

21. But unfortunately, from one cause or another—whether from a want of available capital to carry out this main work, or from a disinclination to use it, or from a desire to secure as large an immediate return from the mines as possible, or to make the enterprise, by means of the easily reached surface coal, a self-supporting enterprise from the first, without risk or outlay of capital, or from whatever cause,—the attention of those who came into possession of the mines was from the first directed, and *exclusively* directed, to the surface coal. The development of the main resources was set aside or deferred, and all the energies of the enterprise devoted to the object of obtaining as much output as possible from outcrops and other surface coal.

22. The course then adopted was in the end fatal to the enterprise. In the first place, the expenses became before long as great, or nearly as great, as they would have been in the prosecution of the more extensive undertaking, because almost as large an establishment was required in the one case as in the other, and because, although for some time an endeavour was made to avoid the expenses of steam-engines and other machinery, it soon became evident that without such mechanical aid not even the surface workings could be successfully carried on. Again, what supply of coal was opened out in any given surface working was not and could not well be considerable. It yielded perhaps a few thousand tons in the course of the year, and either was soon exhausted, or, as it not unfrequently happened, ceased to be available, from some fault of working, or from want of proper means at the right moment to overcome some ordinary difficulty.

23. Every fresh attempt upon the surface coal led only to the same result. The expenses continued or increased. The returns remained always at the same low figure. Year after year passed, no progress was made, and not a step gained towards the development of the main resources of the mines.

24. Despite this continual failure no change took place for the

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better in the practice to which all that failure could be traced. On the contrary, the evil perpetuated itself, because the longer this state of things lasted, and no improvement became visible in the results or in the prospects of the undertaking, the more urgent became the calls of directors upon their managers to increase the immediate outputs, and as it was only to the surface coal that the manager could look to obtain an immediate output, he had no alternative but to pursue the same expensive and unremunerative system, till a position so false and unsound could no longer be maintained.

25. It is this desire for immediate returns and premature results which has been the bane of the companies that have held the mines. The fatal fault of their directors has been that they have never known how to wait. They have always insisted upon an immediate return. They have sent to the spot managers and agents, some of them able and skilful men. They have furnished means. They have withheld means. But *time* they have never given,—and without time it was simply impossible to open out the permanent resources of the mines.

Incessantly urged to increase, and without delay, the output of coal, the manager for the time being had no opportunity to prosecute a large undertaking. Sent out, as it mostly happened, on a short engagement only, inclination or force of circumstances soon led him to accommodate his direction of the enterprise on the spot to suit the immediate object of his employers at home, by obtaining for them as large returns of output as it was possible to do, during the two or three years of his management.

And as to win the deep coal must be a work of time, and moreover expensive, without prospect of an immediate return, the energies of the new manager were not unnaturally directed to some fresh venture in the accessible surface coal which would give that immediate return, however inconsiderable it might be, and however temporary the source of supply; a work in reality unsatisfactory and insufficient while it lasted, and helping in no way the future of the enterprise.

26. An attempt was made by Mr. Sinclair, the able manager for the Labuan Coal Company in 1862, to remedy this state of things and open out the permanent resources of the mines,—and this at the same time that he was raising a larger output from the surface coal than had been the case at any preceding period; but before he could ensure the success of his undertaking his engagement terminated, and he left the island.

27. Returning in 1866 as manager for the China Steam Ship and Labuan Coal Company, he renewed his project and laid down a plan of extensive operations upon sound principles, which, had time and means been given him to carry it out, would, there is every reason to believe, have made the success of the company. But in the following year, and before he had proceeded very far with his undertaking, the affairs of the company approached a crisis, which ended in their abandonment of the enterprise, and the transfer of it, in 1868, to the present company.

28. My Despatch, No. 65, of the 30th July last, has furnished your Lordship with more precise information respecting the scheme of operations referred to, and the transactions in connection with it.

29. The present company, which succeeded to this position, unfortunately fell into very much the same errors that had characterized

the proceedings of the former companies. They delayed the prosecution of that work by which it was proposed to win the deep coal—namely, the sinking of the 100 fathom shaft, which had been carried by Mr. Sinclair to a depth of thirty-five fathoms, and appear instead to have directed their attention to the object of obtaining what supply of coal could immediately be secured from workings already opened out. But these were either surface workings, or workings the permanent character of which had been lost, and were only designed by Mr. Sinclair, as I understand, for auxiliary purposes, to serve as sources of supply during the process of sinking the deep shaft, or as reserves in case of emergency.

30. Thus, though the operations of the company were conducted with energy, yet being directed to working out the temporary sources of supply, and not to the development of the permanent resources of the mines, even if they helped the temporary interests, they in no way advanced the future or substantial interests of the enterprise.

31. At last, the company realized the necessity of proceeding with the main work, and in the course of 1871 took active measures for recommencing the sinking of the 100 fathom shaft. By the 25th of November, Mr. Gray, the new manager, having completed the preliminary operations, commenced raising the water in the deserted shaft, repairing the inner works as he proceeded. By the 5th of January, 1872, the water was removed and the sinking of the shaft through the solid was once more renewed, after an interval of nearly five years.

32. The undertaking is a work requiring time, skill, and a due and available sufficiency of such material means as are usually employed in mining operations of this nature. The importance of the last-named consideration, though it might appear unnecessary to refer to it, cannot be overrated, because a failure in this respect, a deficiency in steam power, a defect in the necessary mining apparatus at a critical moment, and at this distance from England, might be attended with serious inconveniences, and certainly with a further loss of time, which the enterprise is ill able to afford.

33. The winning of the coal once accomplished, a most valuable source of supply will, it is confidently expected, be opened out, which cannot fail to insure the success of the present enterprise, and with it the better fortune of the colony, which has waited so many years in vain for the development of resources the possession of which was one of the principal reasons for its being called into existence.

34. It would not be just to say that the Colony has hitherto derived no advantage from the possession of these resources. The several enterprises that have been directed to the mines have necessitated the maintenance of establishments, have employed labour, and circulated money. But the benefit received by these means has borne no proportion to what would have been the case had the resources of the Labuan coal-fields been properly developed.

35. The result of the several enterprises has hitherto, indeed, been failure, but I have endeavoured to show the causes to which that failure is attributable—that it has been due, in fact, to a misdirection of enterprise. The efforts of the present company are at last exerted in a right direction; and this being the case, it is not too much to expect that success will ultimately be secured, provided those efforts are vigorously and efficiently sustained.

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36. The following are the returns of output and export of coal during the year 1871 :—

	Tons.	Cwts.
Gross output from 1st January to 31st December	5,735	13
Loss in small and waste - - - - -	1,902	15
Nett yield - - - - - -	3,832	18
Exported during the year - - - - -	1,796	0

37. The trade of the island with the coast of Borneo commenced soon after the first settlement of the Colony, and gradually increased as the people of the more distant parts of the coast acquired confidence in the protection and security afforded to them in a British port; and recognised the advantages of the Labuan market for the disposal of their produce.

38. During the many years of failure at the coal mines, the trade, though by no means a large one, has proved a valuable resource to this small community.

39. The principal articles of coast produce brought to the island, are sago, padi, rice, native tobacco, dammar, India-rubber, gutta percha, rattans, ataps, hides, edible birds-nests, tripang or bêche de mer, sharks-fins, beeswax, camphor, pearls, pearl-shells, and tortoiseshell.

Most of this coast produce is re-exported from Labuan for the British and China markets through Singapore.

40. From Singapore are received, partly for consumption in the Colony, partly for re-exportation to the coast, in exchange for the native produce, cotton cloths, prints, grey shirting, handkerchiefs, cotton twist, brass goods, beads, jars, hardware, crockery, opium, tobacco, spirits, wine, beer, tea, flour, sugar, rice, and general provisions, &c., &c.

41. The approximate value of the imports into the island during the year was put at 138,023*l.*; that of exports from the island at 118,961*l.*

42. The number of merchant ships entered during the year was twenty-four, with an aggregate registered tonnage of 9,956 tons. Eight of these ships were steamers, which called only for coal. The number which cleared outwards was twenty-three, with an aggregate tonnage of 8,358 tons. In addition, the island was visited by 1,365 native trading boats.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY BULWER,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

HONG KONG.

No. 13.

HONG KONG.

No. 13.

(No Report has been received.)

LONDON:
PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES AND SONS, STAMFORD STREET AND CHARING CROSS,
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

PAPERS

RELATING TO

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

PART I.—1874.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1874.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY W. CLOWES & SONS, STAMFORD STREET AND CHARING CROSS,
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1874.

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DOMINION OF CANADA.

No. 1.

To the Hon. S. L. TILLEY, C.B., Minister of Customs, &c., &c., &c.

SIR,

THE returns received from the various ports of entry of the six organized Provinces of the Dominion, for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June, 1872, present an aggregate result demonstrative of the steady and progressive advancement of the country in commerce and enterprise.

In the Report I had the honour of laying before you last year, the value of the goods entered for consumption, the duties collected thereon, and the value of exports for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1871, compared with the previous year, are stated as follows, viz. :—

	Entered for Consumption.	Duties.	Exports.
	$	$	$
1869–70 - - -	71,237,603	9,462,940	73,573,490
1870–71 - - -	86,947,482	11,843,655	74,173,618
Increase in 1870–71	15,709,879	2,380,715	600,128

In making a similar comparison of the fiscal years 1870–71 and 1871–72 we have the following results, viz. :—

	Entered for Consumption.	Duties.	Exports.
	$	$	$
1870–71 - - -	86,947,482	11,843,655	74,173,618
1871–72 - - -	107,709,116	13,045,493	82,639,663
Increase in 1871–72	20,761,634	1,201,838	8,466,045

Showing a total trade in imports and exports of $190,348,779 in 1871–72 against $161,121,100 in 1870–71, or an increase of $29,227,679 in the aggregate trade of Canada during the former fiscal year over the latter.

The increase noted in my Report of last year as marking the import trade of Canada from Great Britain and from the United States, severally, as shown by the Customs returns for the fiscal years 1869–70 and 1870–71, has steadily continued in about the same ratio during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1872, with this additional good feature in the returns, that the increase which in 1870–71 was confined to the imports extends in 1871–72 to the exports.

This will appear more fully in the following comparative statements, which present in a synoptical form the whole foreign commerce

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of Canada as deduced from the official returns from the 124 ports of entry of the Dominion, in which are included the minor imports and exports at 65 sub-ports.

These statements show: 1st, the value of goods entered for consumption, and from what countries the goods are imported. 2nd, the value of goods exported, and to what countries exported; and 3d, the total trade with each country in exports and imports, as shown in the previous statements. In each of these statements are also shown the ratio of increase or decrease in the consumption, exports, and aggregate trade, by countries, and the proportion or ratio which the trade with each country mentioned, bears to the whole trade of the Dominion.

STATEMENT No. 1.

COUNTRIES WHENCE IMPORTED.	VALUE OF GOODS ENTERED FOR CONSUMPTION.				
	1870-71.	1871-72.	Per °/₀ of inc.	Per °/₀ of dec.	Relative ratio from each country for 1871-72.
	$	$			
Great Britain - -	49,168,170	61,900,702	25·89	—	59·00
United States - - -	29,022,387	34,217,969	17·9	—	32·62
France - - -	1,265,183	1,809,244	43	—	01·72
Germany - - -	576,332	936,757	62·53	—	00·90
Spain - - - -	430,364	429,951	—	00·09	00·41
Holland - - - -	173,210	193,658	11·8	—	00·19
Belgium - - -	171,584	204,344	19	—	00·20
British North American Provinces - - -	1,937,432	1,968,587	01·6	—	01·87
British West Indies -	839,523	1,128,236	34·39	—	01·07
Spanish ,, -	2,018,930	1,276,739	—	36·8	01·21
French ,, -	25,922	35,906	38·5	—	00·03
Other West India Islands - - -	10,745	6,934	—	35·4	00·01
South America - -	79,207	81,176	02·5	—	00·07
China and Japan.- -	442,401	386,612	—	12·6	00·36
Other Countries - -	499,755	345,061	—	30·9	00·34
Total for four Provinces	86,661,145	104,921,876	21·07	—	100
Add Manitoba - -	286,337	1,020,172	—	—	—
,, British Columbia -	—	1,767,068	—	—	—
(Imports of both these Provinces, chiefly from U.S. and G.B., see abstracts of Table No. 1, pp. 230 and 248) -					
Grand Total - -	86,947,482	107,709,116	23·87		

We gather from the foregoing statement that 59 per cent. of the aggregate importations into the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, during the last fiscal year, were from Great Britain, and 32·62 per cent. from the United States of America; our import trade with both these countries amounting together to upwards of 91 per cent. of the whole importations into those Provinces. This ratio would have been still further increased had the imports into British Columbia and Manitoba been included; but the trade of these new Provinces was necessarily excluded from

the comparative part of the statement, owing to the recent date at which they became integral and important portions of the Dominion of Canada.

The ratio of increase in the importations from France and Germany, although the present amount of the trade with each of those countries is not in itself momentous, is nevertheless deserving of especial notice, and so also the increase in the imports from the British West Indies. France takes the lead in the value of its exports to Canada, but the large ratio of increase, 62½ per cent., in the importations from Germany in 1871–72 over the previous year, are indications of the tendency to increased commercial relations with that country. The falling off in the import trade with the Spanish West Indies may readily be accounted for by the civil war which has prevailed and is still prevailing in Cuba.

STATEMENT No. 2.

COUNTRIES TO WHICH EXPORTED.	VALUE OF EXPORTS.				
	1870–71.	1871–72.	Per °/₀ of inc.	Per °/₀ of dec.	Relative ratio of goods exported to each country for 1871–72.
	$	$			
Great Britain	24,173,224	25,637,996	06·05	—	31·79
United States	30,975,642	31,896,816	03	—	39·55
France	76,376	102,242	34	—	00·13
Germany	16,235	36,232	123	—	00·05
Spain	117,079	25,084	—	78·5	00·03
Holland	6,835	6,376	—	06·7	00·01
Belgium	57,467	60,777	06	—	00·07
British North American Provinces	1,439,704	1,726,175	19·8	—	02·15
British West Indies	2,104,062	2,319,702	10·2	—	02·87
Spanish „	1,498,854	1,632,681	09	—	02·02
French „	194,596	273,547	40·5	—	00·34
Other West India Islands	79,884	100,222	25·4	—	00·12
South America	720,681	671,031	—	06·9	00·83
Other Countries	380,758	521,953	37	—	00·65
Total	61,841,397	65,010,834			
Estimated amount short returned at inland ports	2,448,668	2,887,056	17·9	—	03·58
Total the produce of Canada	64,290,065	67,897,890	05·61	—	—
Goods not the produce of Canada exported to Great Britain, U. States, and other countries	9,853,033	12,744,125	29·34	—	15·81
Total for four Provinces	74,143,098	80,642,015	08·76	—	100
Add Manitoba (to G. B. and U.S. only)	30,520	85,541	—	—	—
British Columbia	—	1,912,107	—	—	—
Grand Total	74,173,618	82,639,663	11·41	—	—

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The reason assigned in my remarks upon statement No. 1 for not including the imports of Manitoba and British Columbia in the comparative part of that statement, applies, of course, equally to the exports of those Provinces. In looking, however, at the abstract of Table No. 6 of this volume, we find among the countries to which the products of the Province of British Columbia are now exported, an indication of the trade which the Dominion of Canada is destined, at no very remote period, to carry on directly on a larger scale with those rich and populous countries of the eastern hemisphere that occupy the western shores of the Pacific Ocean, and with that multitude of peopled islands constituting the Polynesia of modern geography. Such facts and such prospects forcibly indicate the importance—an importance which in a commercial point of view alone could not be over estimated—of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which is to bring the trade of Asia and Australia to our great inland navigable waters, and through them connect the sea-borne commerce of the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

Statement No. 3, which follows, represents the whole trade of the Dominion for the two fiscal years ending respectively on the 30th

STATEMENT No. 3.

COUNTRIES.	AGGREGATE TRADE.				
	1870-71.	1871-72.	Per °/₀ of inc.	Per °/₀ of dec.	Relative ratio of trade for 1871-72.
	$	$			
Great Britain	73,341,394	87,538,698	19·35	—	47·17
United States	59,998,029	66,114,785	10·19	—	35·63
France	1,341,559	1,911,486	42·49	—	01·03
Germany	592,567	972,989	64·19	—	00·53
Spain	547,443	455,035	—	16·88	00·25
Holland	180,045	200,034	11·10	—	00·11
Belgium	229,051	265,121	15·74	—	00·14
British North American Provinces	3,377,136	3,694,762	09·40	—	01·99
British West Indies	2,943,585	3,447,938	17·13	—	01·86
Spanish „	3,517,784	2,909,420	—	17·29	01·57
French „	220,518	309,453	40·33	—	00·16
Other West India Islands	90,629	107,156	18·23	—	00·06
South America	799,888	752,207	—	05·96	00·40
China and Japan	442,401	386,612	—	12·61	00·21
Other countries	880,513	867,014	—	01·53	00·46
Estimated amount short returned at inland ports	2,448,668	2,887,056	17· 9	—	01·56
Goods not the produce of Canada exported to Great Britain, United States and other countries	9,853,033	12,744,125	29·34	—	06 87
Total trade for four Provinces	160,804,243	185,563,891	15·39	—	100
Add Manitoba	316,857	1,105,713	—	—	—
„ British Columbia	—	3,679,175	—	—	—
Grand Total	161,121,100	190,348,779	18·14		

June, 1871 and 1872, as shown by the value of the goods entered for consumption, and the value of the goods exported added together. As regards the four elder provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the comparative statement is made with reference to the countries with which they collectively traded, and the percentage of increase or decrease of this aggregate trade is noted, as also the proportion or ratio which such trade with each of the countries named bears to the whole trade of those four provinces with Great Britain and her Possessions, and with foreign countries. The provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia, although included at foot to complete the statement of the whole trade of the Dominion for the year 1871–72, are not computed in the deducing of ratios.

This statement establishes that in 1871–72, 47·17 per cent. of the whole external trade of the senior provinces was carried on with Great Britain, 35·63 per cent. with the United States of America, and the remaining 17·20 per cent. with all the other countries named.

It is worthy of remark that the trade with the British North American Provinces, outside the Dominion, that is to say Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, is the next in point of rank after Great Britain and the United States, and that the British West Indies follow in order, thus exhibiting between Canada and Great Britain, and between Canada and Britain's other Possessions in this hemisphere, an aggregate amount of purely British trade, of $94,681,398.

Looking at our transmarine trade as contra-distinguished from our trade with the United States through our inland waters, I would refer to Tables No. 17 and 18, where will be found in detail the number and tonnage of vessels *entered and cleared* SEAWARD at Canadian ports during the fiscal year 1871–72.

A summary of those Tables affords the following results, viz. :—

		Ships Inwards.		Ships Outwards.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
With cargo	British - -	5,158	1,514,004	7,712	2,099,148
	Foreign - -	1,033	442,752	1,687	688,024
In ballast	British - -	3,056	674,286	214	68,225
	Foreign - -	1,111	358,751	285	101,514

Showing an aggregate of 3,613,152 tons of British shipping against 1,130,776 tons of foreign, employed in the import and export carrying trade of Canada *seaward* during the last fiscal year. The vessels entering and clearing in ballast represent a tonnage of 1,202,776, of which 742,511 were British, and 460,265 foreign.

The whole number and tonnage of *sea-going* vessels arriving at and departing from Canadian ports during the fiscal year 1871–72, was 20,256 vessels, representing 5,945,704 tons.

Turning from the *seaward* trade of Canada to its trade over its inland waters with the United States, which is confined to the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, though partially extending to

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Manitoba (not included in the statements), we find that a considerable tonnage is engaged in that trade, as shown by the following summary :—

	No. of Vessels Inward.	Tonnage.
British - - - - -	11,150	1,975,572
American - - - - -	6,286	1,606,576
	17,436	3,582,148

	Vessels Outward.	Tonnage.
British - - - - -	10,355	1,822,566
American - - - - -	5,878	1,456,742
	16,233	3,279,308

The aggregate tonnage employed in that part of our trade which is thus carried on through our inland waters directly with the neighbouring Republic amounts to 6,861,456 tons, forming with the sea-going shipping a collective amount of 12,808,160 tons employed in the foreign carrying trade of the Dominion.

Table No. 25 exhibits the number and tonnage of steam and sailing vessels built, and of those registered in the Dominion during the last fiscal year.

A comparison of the totals of the Table referred to, with the corresponding Table for the previous year, gives the following result for each province named :—

	Built.				Registered.			
	1871.		1872.		1871.		1872.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Ontario - -	55	7,777	55	10,289	84	9,070	66	10,843
Quebec - - -	80	20,664	74	14,200	126	28,247	139	25,896
Nova Scotia - -	146	44,307	188	52,882	203	47,670	224	45,784
New Brunswick -	108	33,353	93	36,464	127	36,737	127	43,654
British Columbia -	—	—	4	230	—	—	7	1,194
Total - -	389	106,101	414	114,065	540	121,724	563	127,371

In Ontario the number of the vessels built is the same in both years, but the tonnage is larger in 1872, giving an average to each vessel of 187 tons, instead of 141·4 which it was in 1871. Quebec has fallen off both in numbers and tonnage. Nova Scotia is the only province in which any marked increase has taken place in ship-building. The number of vessels built in 1871 was 146, in 1872, 188, an increase of 28·76 %; the increase in the tonnage was about 19⅓ %. In New Brunswick the chief feature in that branch of enterprise consists in the increase shown in the size of vessels; 108, built in 1871, measuring an aggregate of 33,353 tons, whilst 93, built in 1872, give 36,464 tons, showing an average tonnage of the ships

built last year of rather more than 393 tons, against 308·82 the year previous. DOMINION OF CANADA.

The recapitulation of Table No. 16 shows the value of goods in warehouse on the 30th June, 1872, as being $9,267,410. This amount, however, includes the value of teas and coffee in bond on that day, but which were ex-warehoused on and after the 1st of July following, and went into consumption duty free, the duties on both those articles having been repealed by Parliament in the Session of that year. The amount also includes large quantities of grain warehoused under the regulations of the 10th May, 1870, for the manufacturing of flour in bond—for which grain (then subject to duty) bonds were given by the importers, and warehouse entries passed, many of which are still outstanding; although the duties were repealed on the 14th April, 1871, the importers having neglected to furnish the Customs with the requisite certificates of export to entitle them to the cancelling of the bonds. These values, which are technically and properly brought into the warehouse returns, but which are not, for the causes stated, substantively in bond, would largely reduce the amount of the goods in warehouse as shown by the statement referred to.

Apart from the reasons just stated for reducing the apparent amount of goods in warehouse as represented by the official statements referred to, it may be remarked that this large amount of goods in bond does not appear to be ascribable to any excessive importations during the year 1871–72. A comparison of the gross value of the goods imported, with the value of the goods entered for consumption (Table No. 12), shows an excess of only $3,721,412, of the whole importations over the value of goods actually entered for consumption; whilst the excess of the importations in the previous year (1870–71) over the goods entered for consumption, was $9,145,499.

The revenue from customs collected in each of the four principal Provinces shows for the last two years the successive ratios of increase following:—

	Increase in 1871 over 1870.	Increase in 1872 over 1871.
Ontario	37·98 per cent.	15·98 per cent.
Quebec	22·69 „	03·77 „
Nova Scotia	17·41 „	00·74 „
New Brunswick	19·43 „	05·14 „

The proportion which, in each of the six Provinces, the collections bear to the whole customs duties collected in the Dominion during the last fiscal year was for

Ontario	29·64 per cent.
Quebec	47·34 „
Nova Scotia	10·25 „
New Brunswick	09·78 „
Manitoba	00·36 „
British Columbia	02·63 „

The gross amount of duties collected shows an increase over the previous fiscal year of 10·15 per cent. In my Report of last year,

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that percentage of increase for 1870–71 over 1869–70 stands at a much higher figure, *i.e.*, 25½ per cent, a contrast which might be the result of diminished trade, but which, in the present instance, argues reduced taxation, coupled as that difference is, with largely increased imports and general commercial prosperity, as evidenced by the returns of the trade of the Dominion, which I have now the honour of laying before you.

The whole humbly submitted,

R. S. M. BOUCHETTE,

February 20, 1873. Commissioner of Customs.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

No. 2.

No. 2.

Governor HILL to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Newfoundland,

MY LORD, October 25, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith the Blue Book of Newfoundland for the year 1872.

Having during the past year reported at length upon the general condition of the Colony, I need now only observe that the affairs of the Island during 1872 exhibit a sound state of financial operations and commercial enterprise, and that the present prospects of Newfoundland are most encouraging.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, (Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL.

&c. &c. &c.

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No. 3.

No. 3.

Governor LEFROY, C.B., to the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Government House, Bermuda, May 16, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book for the year ending 31st December, 1872, and to submit the following remarks:—

2. The duties on imports were fixed at their present amounts in 1866, and since that date the production of the Annual Supply Bill has increased 33 per cent. This increase is especially noticeable in the revenue received from a tax of 3*s.* per gallon on rum and other

spirits, which furnishes more than half the direct revenue. It has increased from 7,942*l.* in 1867 to 11,721*l.* in 1872. The proceeds of the ad valorem duty of 5 per cent. on the great bulk of miscellaneous importations has also increased from 7,494*l.* to 9,464*l.*, or 26 per cent. The other duties, which taken together contribute less than 5 per cent. of the Customs revenue, have for the most part increased also, but with some fluctuations. The auction duty shows a steady decline. On comparing the revenue raised from the proceeds of the Supply Act (22,633*l.*) with that of the preceding year (23,022*l.*) there is a slight diminution, amounting to 1·7 per cent. This is accounted for by a decrease in the duty collected on malt liquors and wine. There is an increase on rum and on the articles chargeable with the ad valorem duty of 5 per cent., which are nearly all that are in general consumption, and on the whole the Supply Act yielded more in 1872 than in any previous year from 1867 inclusive, except 1871.

The revenue from fixed and incidental sources, after deducting the Parliamentary grant, deducting also a sum of 1,500*l.* raised on debentures for the erection of sheds on the wharf at Hamilton, and 2,000*l.* borrowed from savings' banks, was 4,523*l.*, which is greater than in any previous year since 1866. The sum borrowed from the savings' banks will be covered by the balance in the treasury at the end of the Colonial financial year.

3. There is no distinction drawn, or perhaps practicable, between the balance sheet of the public accounts and the annual revenue and expenditure of the Colony, although they are very different things. The former is complicated by the introduction of sums raised on debentures for works of public improvement, constituting a public debt, and by disbursements in paying off debentures, both operations occurring in the same year. This was notably the case from 1868 to 1871 inclusive, while the Longbird Island causeway was under construction, in which years a sum of 19,830*l.* of money raised on debentures was carried to the account of revenue, and a sum of 4,000*l.* paid off was charged as expenditure. The following table shows what may be termed the natural revenue of the Colony, irrespective of borrowed money and of contributions of the Imperial Parliament and the normal expenditure, for the last six years, excluding from the latter account the Longbird Island causeway and the charges met by grants from the Imperial Parliament.

TABLE I.

Year.	Amount raised.	Natural revenue.	Amount expended.	Normal expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1867	24,268	21,144	23,219	18,999
1868	36,110	22,955	37,230	20,693
1869	30,040	25,840	32,039	22,345
1870	33,073	25,663	33,302	23,531
1871	34,969	27,213	33,700	24,882
1872	33,256	27,156	32,235	28,136

There is a considerable increase in the expenditure classed as

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normal in 1872, which arises from the addition of the following expenses:—

	£
Towards removal of a shoal called Manhattan shoal, at the mouth of St. George's harbour - -	621
For the improvement to the entrances of the town of Hamilton at the east end - - -	1750
For the introduction of forty Swedish emigrants -	621
In withdrawing worn and defaced silver coin from circulation - - - - -	421
	£3,413

A nearly equivalent sum of silver coin will appear as a credit in 1873. The other expenses, although they may be at the discretion of the Legislature replaced by some fresh charge of a corresponding character, are in their nature exceptional, and the largest item is one which might very properly have been met by the issue of debentures rather than made a charge on the year's revenue. The distinction drawn in this paragraph is not unimportant, Bermuda having been assessed to the proposed Colonial Exhibition at South Kensington as if it had a clear revenue of 35,000*l.* a year.

Steam communication with New York.

4. Bermuda makes great sacrifices for the maintenance of regular steam communication with New York, which absorbed, in 1872, 16 per cent. of the revenue raised by taxation. The supply of cattle, of provisions, of flour, and of lumber, of a large part of the dry goods consumed, the monetary concerns of the merchants, the hope of profit from American visitors, and the personal convenience of all classes of society, are closely bound up in this communication. I do not here insist on the transport of Bermuda agricultural produce to market, because that can to a great degree take care of itself. During the crop season (April, May and June) freights are remunerative, but during the rest of the year the Colony unfortunately produces very little that is exported, and steam vessels would not run without subsidy; it is also necessary to subsidize more voyages than might otherwise be necessary, as the voyage only takes four or five days, and shipowners object to an idle detention of their vessels in either port.

Agriculture and agricultural exports.

5. The agricultural exports, the staple of the Colony, and the best criterion of the industry of the people, exhibit a large increase over preceding years, and they are very far from having attained their maximum development. It is a matter of constant surprise to see the comparatively large extent of good land still left waste in this old and well-peopled Colony. That the population is unduly composed of females, and that there is a practical deficiency of adult males for field labour is undeniable; but much of the labour of onion and tomato culture is very light—it might be, and indeed is, done by women and children. The quantity under tillage in seven purely rural parishes was by the census in 1,871, 1,941 acres; it has been slightly increased since, but the male population of the same parishes between the ages of 15 and 60 being about 1,700, there would appear to be about hands enough if the same constant industry which is

applied to small farming or spade husbandry in other countries were more generally met with here. There is a serious drawback to the improvement of the Colony in the absence of leases and the practice of cultivating on shares. I have been repeatedly given to understand as a reason why obvious improvements are not effected that the tenant has no secure tenure, and would have his rent raised if he effected them. Fishing and pilotage and labours of handicraft of course draw off many of the males from agriculture. The following table contains the total declared value of the principal agricultural exports for the last seven years :—

TABLE II.

DECLARED VALUE OF THE CHIEF AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS.

Year.	Arrowroot.	Onions.	Irish Potatoes.	Tomatoes.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
1866	2,579	6,359	6,790	2,232	17,960
1867	2,474	6,145	7,992	1,962	18,513
1868	3,188	17,052	8,322	2,493	31,053
1869	1,866	11,414	5,794	1,403	20,477
1870	414	19,277	9,254	5,639	34,584
1871	1,473	20,678	10,963	13,718	46,832
1872	2,186	31,760	17,915	12,169	64,030

The increase here shown abundantly sustains a belief that the peculiar fitness of Bermuda in climate and soil, and vicinity to New York, for what may be called market garden culture, bears great promise of future prosperity.

Local revenues.

6. Among the local revenues are at present included the pew rents of the parish churches, amounting to 689*l.*; the other items are parochial rates, which produce 740*l.*, rum licences, which produce 475*l.*, and a tax on dogs, which produces 74*l.* In addition to these the Corporation of St. George's raises 120*l.* by wharf dues, a sum which is nearly stationary, and quite insufficient to enable it to make progress with the local improvements so much required there ; and the Corporation of Hamilton raises 1,214*l.*, which increases and will increase with the exports from Bermuda.

Public works.

7. The convenience of the Longbird Island causeway, opened in 1871, has fully met the expectations of the people, and the only disappointment has arisen from frequent accidents to the swing bridge, obliging it to be closed for a time; they have, however, none of them been of a serious character, and the total sum expended on repairs to the present time has not exceeded 160*l.*

A new lunatic asylum is under construction.

Considerable progress was made last year in the removal of a dangerous shoal at the entrance to St. George's.

The opening of, widening and deepening the passage called Trinblius Narrows in the entrance to Hamilton Harbour may be regarded as finished.

There remain other tasks not less important ; the first of these is the erection of new gaol, for which funds were set aside in 1865. The next is the erection of a small lighthouse on David's Head, the necessity for which has been impressed upon me by the marine disasters of the past twelve months. There is in this neighbourhood

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a zone of fully five miles in width (measured at a safe distance outside the reefs), within which the light on Gibb's Hill is intercepted by high land. It is needless to say how greatly the security of vessels making the east end of the island at night or in thick weather would be promoted by a lighthouse in this quarter, and it is not at all required to be of an expensive character.

Education.

8. The present position of the common schools in Bermuda and their undoubted imperfection cannot be well understood without a glance at their history, which, while it probably presents many features common to the like story for other colonies in which negro slavery formerly obtained, is also marked by others peculiar to the origin and political organization of this small community.

No direct provision appears to have been made for schools in the original settlement of the Somers Islands, an omission which is rather remarkable considering the forethought shown and the high principles professed in every detail of the instructions of the Governor and Company of the City of London. Section 180, however, of these instructions (printed in 1622), provides that "masters of families, "by aid and direction of their ministers, see their children, servants, "and other cohabitants, brought up in the true knowledge and fear "of God, in the hatred also of vice, and exercise of piety and virtue." Slaves were not at this time included under the term servants, as only penal servitude seems to have existed in the early years of the settlement; the persons referred to were apprentices and white peasantry, among whom elementary education may be inferred to have been pretty generally diffused, from the rarity of a signature by mark in early documents. That the education of slaves, however, when they soon afterwards existed, was not generally deemed incompatible with the maintenance of the institution of slavery, appears by the dismissal of the Rev. Sampson Bond in 1670, on a charge of maintaining that "the breeding up of negro children in the Christian religion makes "them stubborn, and to commit many insolences against their "masters and mistresses." Fortunately the reverend gentleman, who is described as "a godly, orthodox, and painful divine," was able to prove that the sentiment condemned was uttered by somebody else. (See Colonial Records—MS.)

9. It appears from a document printed in the Journals of Assembly in 1816, and still extant, that in 1663 there were 12 shares of land, amounting to nearly 300 acres, devoted to school purposes, viz.:—

In Devonshire tribe	2	shares.
„ Pembroke „	2	„
„ Paget's „	1	„
„ Warwick „	1	„
„ Southampton „	6	„

These shares paid a rental varying from 100 to 140 lbs. of tobacco each, worth about 2*d.* per lb., which, taking the price of other commodities, seems to have been about equivalent to 30*s.* to 50*s.* at the present time. The lands in Paget's and Southampton tribes were gradually alienated or appropriated by private persons, and ultimately lost as an endowment. The lands in Pembroke, Devonshire and

Warwick, however, remained, and, although there appears to have been no use made of them, and no endowment derived from them for actual schools, during the whole of the last century, down to 1813, they were nevertheless regarded as always available for that use. In 1813 a fund of 600*l.* sterling was raised by the sale of timber on the Devonshire lot, and the lots in Pembroke were sold on 99 years' leases, renewable for 33 years at the expiration of that time. They realized 986*l.* sterling, which was added to the other proceeds.

In 1818 the school land in Warwick tribe was sold to the vestry of that parish for the erection of a school for 200*l.* Thus the land in Devonshire parish, comprising 45 acres, has alone remained down to this time as a school reserve, producing nothing, but which the friends of education in Bermuda have looked to as promising in the end some means of compassing what one generation after another has felt to be urgently needed. In 1816 an Act was passed, by which the Devonshire land, and the funds raised by the sales already referred to, were vested in a body of trustees for the establishment of a college or school "for the teaching of languages, sciences and other branches "of literature" (§ ix.). And the only link of connection preserved with the original free schools was, that each of the three parishes whose school lands contributed to the endowment should recommend two poor children for each share for a gratuitous education (§ xii.). The school or college was not opened until 1829, and was closed after a brief career of six years in 1835, for reasons which are clearly stated in Mr. Durrell's Report of 1843. See also Journals of House of Assembly, 1837, p. 31. With it there ceased to exist for 35 years any vestige of the free school endowment of the original Colonists of Bermuda. Fortunately, however, the funds of the trust were not entirely exhausted in 1835. Besides the proceeds of the sales, the Crown had granted 1,000*l.* out of Crown land revenue, the Governor and Council had granted 1,400*l.* out of powder duties, and the Legislature had voted 1,733*l.*; of all this there remained in 1843 a sum of 954*l.* in the English 4 per cents., which has since by accumulation reached the amount of 2,100*l.* in the 3 per cent. Consols, and by an Act of 1870 has been divided between the white and coloured population of these islands, represented by two separate bodies of trustees, for educational purposes. It may be reasonable hoped that at some future not very distant day two grammar schools, more conveniently situated than the unfortunate Devonshire College, may once more offer to the white and coloured youths respectively the possibility of obtaining a somewhat superior education to that given in the common schools at a rate lower than is charged in the private schools, very low as that is. At present, however, neither body of trustees has taken even the first step towards the establishment of such school by selecting a site.

The original free-school land having in the manner here sketched been lost as regards any parochial utility, I have next to trace the origin of the common schools now existing.

10. The general Parliamentary grant of 25,000*l.* in 1835 to aid the education of the emancipated negroes was followed by the erection of school-houses in several parishes in Bermuda and the establishment of schools chiefly under the superintendence of the "Society for pro-

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See Lord Glenelg's Circular Dispatch, 16, $\frac{11}{53}$.

"moting Christian Knowledge" and the "Society for propagating the "Gospel"; the former of these did not discontinue its aid until 1864, both white and coloured children participating. In 1836 an Act was passed, which begins by reciting, that "whereas some pro- "vision has been made by the Imperial Parliament in aid of the "education of the coloured population of these islands; and, whereas "there is no provision for the education of the poor white children," it is hereby enacted, &c., that a school be established in each parish or in conjunction with one or more other parishes. English reading, writing and arithmetic to be taught. The situation of the school-house and the regulation of the school to be under the entire management of the vestry or vestries in conjunction with the rector as member thereof. The vestries to report to the Legislature: the Legislature to provide 40*l.* of the then currency for each such school (24*l.* sterling). This Act was strongly objected to by Lord Glenelg, as failing to meet the intentions of Parliament, and as creating a distinction between poor white and poor coloured children; but, in view of its short term of operation (two years), His Majesty was not advised to make any order respecting it. The number of poor white children educated under it does not appear to have exceeded 130 in either 1837 or 1838, and in the latter year it was enacted by Resolve, a form which has the force of a law, but relates only to the appropriation of money, that "if it shall be satisfactorily shown to this House "in the ensuing year that any number of poor children, *whether "white or coloured*, whose parents are unable to afford them the "means of education, shall have been efficiently instructed for 12 "months in any school comprising not fewer than eight people in the "elements of education by teachers of approved ability and character, "this House will be willing to provide a moderate remuneration for "such teachers, regard being had to the number of pupils in each "school and the emoluments of the school derived by such teacher "from any other source." There were 580 children educated in 1839 under this Resolve at a cost to the public of 245*l.*, a number which did not materially vary, never exceeding 782, down to 1847.

Dispatch, Jan. 27, 1837.

Journals of House of Assembly, p. 35.

11. For the state of education in Bermuda in 1840, I cannot do better than revert to the Reports of Sir Wm. Reid accompanying the Blue Book of that year:—

"Education is at a low ebb in Bermuda, and no correct opinion of its state can be formed by reading the reports of societies which are generally inclined to speak too favourably of their own exertions. The difference of races is a great impediment to the formation of schools of a higher order, for scarce any parents will suffer their white children to attend schools frequented by the blacks.

"An attempt to establish a public classical school some years ago proved an entire failure. There is certainly, however, a growing desire to improve the character of the schools, and a wish on the part of the upper classes to avoid the necessity for sending their children for education to the United States.

"One of the most striking deficiencies in the schools was that until very recently navigation was nowhere taught in these islands.

"The younger children of the coloured people derive much benefit from the zeal of the Wesleyans, whose exertions are so directed as in

no case to offend. The schools of this Society, however, although open to all classes, are attended only by the coloured race."

Extract from Report accompanying Blue Book of 1841.

"The most difficult want to supply as regards the schools is that of competent teachers, which is no doubt owing to the smallness of the islands and their remote position. This want applies still more to the female schools than to those for boys. Societies at home willing to assist in education here could help in nothing so effectually as in lending their aid in training native teachers in the model schools in England. I mean this to apply to education for both sexes, as that of females must in every civilized country be regarded as of the highest importance to early training. In the Bermuda schools for the lower orders useful practical instruction is far from being carried out to the extent which I think it might be with great advantage and without much difficulty."

12. Time has done little to mitigate the defects pointed out by my predecessor. It is especially to be regretted that it has done little to remove an unreasonable and obstructive prejudice against the education of white and coloured adults or children, although many of the latter are scarcely to be distinguished in complexion from whites, and although the children associate very freely in their sports out of school.

13. In 1847 an Act was passed (No. 13) which recites that it is deemed expedient to encourage and promote a more general diffusion of religious, moral and useful education throughout all classes of the community by granting pecuniary aid to such persons and religious or charitable societies as are unable to provide sufficient means of themselves for the establishment of schools for the purpose. It proceeded to appoint a Board of Education consisting of the Governor and five lay persons to be annually appointed by him. The Board was empowered to make grants not exceeding 600*l.* per annum, to visit the schools and appoint an inspector. In this capacity it was so fortunate as to engage the services of the gentleman who is now Attorney-General, and for the next two years the schools exhibited in a striking manner the good effects of the new arrangement; the number of scholars was nearly doubled, and the reports are marked by a tone of encouragement, although there are complaints of the very insufficient supply of books and school material. This Act, according to an unfortunate practice of Bermuda legislation, expired in two years. It was renewed with amendments for nearly two more. The amendments limited the number of small schools receiving assistance to 19, and the total expenditure of the Board to 400*l.* a year. On its expiration, the Colony remained without a School Act until 1858, the Legislature providing in detail by Resolves some assistance annually for the schools. A new School Act was passed in October, 1858, and continued in force fourteen months, after which the former state of things recurred. A joint committee of both Houses presented annually a short report accompanied by a tabular statement of the schools considered entitled to public aid, and the House of Assembly voted sums varying from 10*l.* to 31*l.* to each master or mistress at discretion.

Journals of House of Assembly, p. 30.

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The Act of 1867 passed for five years, and the Act of 1872 for seven years, each of which placed 500*l.* per annum at the disposal of an Educational Board, are the first approach which has been made in Bermuda to stability of public instruction, but this sum is far from being sufficient for the purpose; one-fifth of the children in 1872 paid nothing (20·8 per cent.), a still larger proportion paid inadequately (25·3 per cent.), and but little more than half of them (53·9 per cent.) are returned as paying adequately, which means the full sum charged by the teacher. The assistance which can be given out of the public grant is not sufficient to attract a superior class of teachers, and, although I can bear testimony to the excellence of a few of the schools, within the modest limits of the instruction given, it is to be regretted that the majority of teachers are insufficiently educated for their office, and their modes of instruction very defective. The principle is and has always been that the schools are private schools, conducted how and where the master or mistress pleases. They are subject to inspection as a condition of receiving public aid, by which means a certain uniformity of system is secured. Both sexes are educated together. The Irish National School books, which are not very well adapted to this Colony, are used; most of the schools are very poorly provided with maps, wall pictures, and other school apparatus; needle-work is seldom taught to the female children, and there is not one school which is fitted up with desks and forms of modern construction.

14. The following table contains the principal facts for the year 1872:—

TABLE III.

	White.		Coloured.		Total.		The Whole.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
Approximate number of Children between 5 and 15	450	489	827	840	1277	1329	2606
Approximate number attending School	296	245	524	449	820	694	1514
Of whom attend Schools receiving Public Aid	—	—	—	—	455	375	830
CLASSIFIED AS UNDER:—							
1. Learning the Alphabet, or one-syllable words	—	—	—	—	161	124	285
2. Learning to spell, or two-syllable words; beginning Arithmetic and Writing	—	—	—	—	138	92	230
3. Reading three-syllable words; in Simple Arithmetic	—	—	—	—	80	75	155
4. Can read the Bible; in Compound Arithmetic	—	—	—	—	51	72	123
More advanced	—	—	—	—	18	13	31
Learning Geography	—	—	—	—	117	118	235
Learning Grammar	—	—	—	—	104	106	210
Who pay full Fees	—	—	—	—	224	190	414
Who pay in part only	—	—	—	—	136	110	246
Who pay nothing	—	—	—	—	85	75	160

In respect to ages, the common school children are returned as follows:— BERMUDA.

TABLE IV.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
5 and under 8 years -	126	110	236
8 and under 10 - - -	133	83	216
10 and under 12 - -	85	68	153
12 and under 14 - -	64	75	139
over 14 - - - -	44	42	86
			830

I believe there is no boarding-school in Bermuda, and no boys' school at which more than 10*l.* per annum is charged for the highest class of day pupils. There is a superior school for young ladies where the charge is higher. There are a great number of small schools not receiving public aid, where the rates of pay do not exceed 15*s.* a quarter. It follows of necessity that they are most inadequately provided with school requisites, and the instruction given in too many cases scarcely deserves the name of education. There are about 10 school buildings* in the Colony which are spacious and well adapted to their purpose; several of these were erected on glebe land by the religious societies after emancipation. The other schools are mostly held in small rooms in private dwellings, generally unsuitable for school purposes in this climate.

15. Sunday-schools, however valuable and indeed indispensable for religious instruction, are a very imperfect substitute for good primary schools. They are, nevertheless, much relied on by certain classes of parents, both white and coloured, and it appears that nearly one-fifth of the children attending them (18 per cent.) go to no other school. Sunday Schools.

The following table exhibits the number of Sunday-schools and scholars in 1872, returned in answer to an inquiry addressed to every minister of the Gospel in Bermuda:—

TABLE V.—SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

Parish, Locality and Denomination.	White.		Coloured.		Black.		Average attendance.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.		
ST. GEORGE'S PARISH:								
Church of England - - -	22	33	—	—	—	—	30	Military.
Ditto - - - - -	3	4	54	42	11	10	65	
Ditto - - - - -	37	57	2	1	—	—	56	
Wesleyan - - - - -	23	26	—	—	—	—	42	
Ditto - - - - -	1	—	22	33	13	16	52	
Ditto, St. David's Island -	5	16	7	2	6	12	40	
Roman Catholic - - -	23	18	—	—	—	—	41	
British Methodist Episcopalian -	—	—	28	47	—	—	27	

* School-rooms of adequate size:—

St. George's (Parochial).
Tucker's Town (hired).
Crawe (Temperance Hall).
Cripple's-gate (Parochial).
Pembroke (Parochial).
Devonshire Marsh (Elliot Trust).
Paget (Parochial).
Warwick (built by society).
Southampton Parochial (much out of repair).
Somerset (Parochial).

TABLE V.—(*continued.*)

Parish, Locality and Denomination.	White.		Coloured.		Black.		Average attendance.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
HAMILTON PARISH:							
Church of England	10	21	—	—	—	—	—
Wesleyan	7	9	13	9	—	—	32
British Methodist Episcopalian	—	—	51	55	—	—	60
Ditto, The Flatts	—	—	56	52	—	—	60
SMITH'S PARISH:							
British Methodist Episcopalian	—	—	28	17	—	—	27
DEVONSHIRE PARISH:							
Church of England	14	18	—	—	—	—	24
*PEMBROKE PARISH:							
Church of England	52	48	—	—	—	—	86
(*Sic*)	—	—	34	44	11	8	67
Wesleyan	46	48	—	4	2	1	65
Presbyterian	32	41	—	—	—	—	45
British Methodist Episcopalian	—	—	106	108	—	—	80
PAGET PARISH:							
Church of England	9	9	11	14	13	12	41
WARWICK PARISH:							
Church of England	10	8	5	17	19	30	48
Presbyterian	17	35	2	3	1	5	43
SANDYS AND SOUTHAMPTON PARISHES:							
Church of England	65	47	—	—	—	—	170
Ditto	—	—	19	32	31	61	
SOMERSET:							
British Methodist Episcopalian	—	—	18	10	—	—	19
Wesleyan	7	9	3	3	5	6	20
DOCKYARD:							
Chiefly naval. Church of England	50	54	14	7	—	—	78
Total	433	501	473	500	112	161	1318

* The Roman Catholics of Pembroke Parish are included at St. George's.

This table shows a total number of 2180 children professedly receiving religious instruction in Sunday-schools, with an average attendance of at least 1318.

In respect to acquirement, those able to read the New Testament and those not so far advanced are returned respectively as follows:—

	Able to read the New Testament.		Unable to read the New Testament.		Total.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
White	316	393	117	108	934
Coloured	289	329	162	148	928
Black	70	129	42	42	283

In the absence of the rector of Hamilton parish, the return from that school omits these details.

The proportion of children of nearly pure African blood, intended to be distinguished as "black," or "very dark," is probably larger

than would appear from the above tables. The minister whose flock is exclusively of that race does not so classify any of them, and there is a general disposition to diminish the numbers referring to this lowest social class. I may here remark that, with the exception of a few individual slaves brought from time to time by their masters to the Bermudas from the West Indies, who may or may not have been pure African, I can trace no importation of Africans into this Colony since 1813, when the Legislature remonstrated against the recent importation of a "very considerable number of negroes from the "coasts of the United States in His Majesty's ships of war," as highly injurious to the Colony. The consequence of this immunity is perceptible in a marked deviation from the pure African type even in those who are darkest, and in the European character of countenance apart from the complexion of the majority.

About 150 of the white pupils in Sunday-schools, and 270 of the coloured, are over 14 years of age; the remainder appear, as far as ascertained, to belong with little distinction to all school ages.

TABLE VI.—AGES OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1872.

Ages.	White.		Coloured.		Black.		Total.		Total.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
Under 7 - -	86	95	50	65	11	16	147	176	323
7 to 8 - - -	40	42	19	9	13	12	72	63	135
8 to 9 - -	42	62	16	12	3	16	61	90	151
9 to 10 - - -	35	40	14	9	11	11	60	60	120
10 to 11 - -	29	30	19	19	11	22	59	71	130
11 to 12 - - -	36	58	23	16	12	21	71	95	166
12 to 13 - -	32	25	12	16	10	11	64	52	116
13 to 14 - - -	39	33	38	44	13	15	90	90	180
Over 14 - -	65	69	89	128	25	47	179	241	420
							Total ascertained -		1741

A school trust in Devonshire parish erected in 1848, called after Governor Elliot, which has been for some time dormant, was revived last year, and has now a Sunday-school of 43 children, all coloured, as are the trustees and teachers. These are not included for the year 1872. I may also add that, until two years ago, there were three white and two coloured Sunday-schools under the rector of Hamilton and Smith's parishes, which that gentleman has been compelled by ill-health and other causes to discontinue.

It is intended to re-open some of them this year (1873).

Nearly 300 persons belonging to the several religious bodies in this small community are returned as devoting a part of their time on Sunday to the instruction of the young, and the number of children or young persons who are on the books is fully three-fourths of the whole. Most of the schools have libraries.

16. The utility of the marine slip constructed at St. George's, in 1865, was abundantly exemplified in 1872, when, as appears by the annexed statement furnished by the Secretary of the Marine Slip Company, more than double the tonnage of the previous year was taken up for repair. I might add that the utility of Bermuda as a

Navigation.

BERMUDA.

port of refuge in the Atlantic was equally shown last year. It is true that four vessels were wrecked on these islands, viz. :—

March 3, barque 'Warren Ordway,' reefs, W.
June 2, barque unknown, reef, W. (She got off.)
October 11, R.M. steamer 'Delta,' reefs, N.E.
December 25, barkentine 'Geo. Downes,' reefs, N.W.

But the crews of three vessels abandoned at sea found refuge here, viz. :—

March 4, ship 'Denmark.'
April 1, schooner 'C. C. Brooks.'
November 30, 'Arctic,' and no less than 51 vessels in distress entered the harbour.

Statement showing the number of vessels taken on the marine slip at St. George's, Bermuda, during the two years ending December 31, 1872.

TABLE VII.

Date.	No. of Vessels.	Total Tonnage.	Nationality.				
			British.	American.	French.	Italian.	Russian.
Year ending 31st Dec., 1871 -	13	2404	10	3	—	—	—
31st Dec., 1872 -	16	5145	8	5	1	1	1

Remarks—"Of the above number of 29 vessels, eight were owned in the Island, 799 tons, and one vessel the 'Bluebird' by the R.E. Department, tonnage, say 60. The largest vessel taken up as yet was an American ship of 904 tons. The capacity of the slip is for vessels of 1,200 tons."

Crime.

17. The criminal returns in the present volume, although not yet complete, are a nearer approach to completeness than has yet been made; much of the administration of justice in Bermuda is left to unpaid magistrates, who receive no assistance in the performance of their duty, and have not all embraced the necessity of keeping such systematic books and records as will enable them to supply the information called for. The apparent increase of offences reported to the police from a previous average of 190 per annum to 489 is certainly due to the more complete returns furnished. The number of convictions in the Superior Courts, which is a better criterion of crime, shows no increase, and has ranged from 21 to 23 per annum only, for the last four years.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. H. LEFROY.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

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No. 4.

No. 4.

Governor Sir J. P. GRANT, K.C.B., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, King's House, April 23, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1871–72, together with my Report thereon.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

REPORT ON THE JAMAICA BLUE BOOK FOR 1872.

Legislation.

Forty-eight laws were passed during the twelve months under report. Of these the following may be specially noticed :—

Law 1, of 1872. A law to repeal sections 49 and 50 of 19 Vic., cap. 10, "The Judicial Amendment Act, 1855," and for other purposes.

The effect of these sections was to impose upon the judges of the Supreme Court, with regard to leave of absence, restrictions which are not imposed upon other public servants in Jamaica. This was a hardship to these judges which this law has removed.

Law 4 of 1872. A law to extend the provisions of 28 Vic., cap. 18, and 29 Vic., cap. 7 (session 1) to the district courts.

This law gives to district court judges the same power of inflicting corporal punishment in cases over which they have jurisdiction as is possessed by the judge of the Supreme Court in cases coming before the Circuit Court.

Law 5 of 1872. A law to repeal the existing provisions respecting certain sinking funds, and to make other provisions in place thereof.

By this law the future contributions to the sinking funds for the redemption of several old loans will be based on the outstanding amount of debt, instead of, as heretofore, on the total amount of debt originally raised.

Under Law 47 of 1869 a large amount of debentures belonging to the loans in question having been surrendered, the sinking funds for meeting the outstanding debentures became in excess of the requirements contemplated at the time the sinking funds were created.

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Therefore it became expedient to repeal the provisions of the Act creating such sinking funds, and to make other provisions in place thereof, conformably with the amount of debentures now outstanding.

Law 7 of 1872. A law to provide for the more easy enforcement of rights under surety and other bonds given by public officers to secure the due discharge of their duties.

The object of this law is to render the security bonds given by public officers available to those who may suffer direct pecuniary damage in consequence of a breach of duty by the officer giving the bond. Formerly the Crown alone could sue on the bond. But there are many public officers giving security, who, if they fail to perform their duties, injure private persons without injuring the interests of the Crown in any way. This law gives power to the Governor, in such cases as he may think fit, to assign the security bond to the person who may have been injured directly by the non-performance of duty on the part of the officer giving security, whereby that person will be entitled to sue on the bond in the same way as the Crown can sue.

Law 8 of 1872. A law to enable the Court of Chancery to invest, at interest, the moneys of suitors in the Government savings bank.

Formerly the only way in which suitors' money could be invested was by remitting it home, and there investing it in British stock.

This law allows it to be invested at interest in the Government savings bank here. In this way the suitors obtain a higher rate of interest (four per cent.), and they are saved the expense and delay attendant on the mode of investment which alone was formerly authorized.

Law 14 of 1872. A law to authorize the Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks Commissioners to sell so much of the lands of the Hope estate as are not required for the purposes of the Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks.

The Hope estate, which was the property of the late Waterworks Company, is a property of considerable extent, agreeably situated in the neighbourhood of Kingston. It is contemplated that all that part of it which is not required for the Waterworks shall be purchased for the Colony, at a valuation, from the Waterworks Commissioners, in order to its eventual conversion into a public park and botanical garden, including perhaps an experimental or model plantation. For these purposes it is very well adapted by nature.

Law 18 of 1872. A law to reduce the number of the judges of the Supreme Court, and to increase the salary of the Puisne judge.

When Jamaica became a Crown Colony, the bench of the Supreme Court consisted of four judges, a number extravagantly beyond the judicial requirements of the Colony. At the same time their salaries were below what was suitable for learned gentlemen in their high position. In the year 1870 one of these four judgeships was abolished, the incumbent voluntarily retiring on a pension. At the same time the salary of the Chief Justice was somewhat increased, and provision was made for the grant of a travelling allowance to the judges going circuit, who formerly were obliged to defray their circuit expenses from their slender salaries.

On the death of one of the three remaining judges in the year under report, the opportunity was taken to reduce the number of judges to two, which number is amply sufficient for the business, and to raise somewhat the salary of the remaining Puisne judge. The Supreme Court is now upon a much more reasonable and a more economical footing than formerly, whilst its judges are in a more suitable position than they were in before.

Law 27 of 1872. A law to provide for the construction and maintenance of works of irrigation by water taken from the Rio Colre.

This law creates a Commission which is empowered, with the sanction of the Governor, to raise sums not to exceed in all 60,000*l*., by debentures bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and guaranteed by the revenues of the Colony, for the purpose of constructing irrigation works upon the Indian system by water taken from the Rio Colre. It also directs how the works are to be carried out, and makes all necessary legal provision in matters of detail.

This is the canal of which mention is made in my Report on the Blue Book for 1871.

Law 28 of 1872, A law to abolish the office of chaplain to the Kingston General Penitentiary, and to all other prisons in Jamaica, and to the Lunatic Asylum.

This law follows necessarily on the expiry of the law which provided for a Church Establishment in Jamaica. There being no longer a Church Establishment, and all religious denominations being now placed upon an equal footing, it had become inconsistent to have a clergyman of the Church of England specially paid to attend the prisoners in the gaol, or the patients in the asylum. By this law the Governor is empowered to pass rules in Privy Council respecting religious services in prisons, and the religious instruction of prisoners; such rules being applicable equally to all religious communions.

Law 29 of 1872. A law to amend the law concerning vaccination.

The provisions of the latest Imperial Statutes on this subject have been adopted in this law, including a clause compelling parents to bring up their children to the vaccinator for inspection the week after the operation, in order to enable him to ascertain if it has been successful, and to maintain the supply of good lymph.

Law 31 of 1872. A law to provide for the erection and management of the Gas Works in the city of Kingston.

The want of lights of any sort in the streets of the capital town of this colony, containing, as it does, nearly 34,000 inhabitants, has long been felt. Several applications were received from private firms for the monopoly of providing the city with gas; but after inquiry and calculation, it was found that the Government could furnish gas at a far cheaper rate than that stated in any offer made, without subjecting the inhabitants of the town to the very serious evils of a monopoly.

The works are to be erected by the Public Works Department, and five Commissioners are appointed for carrying out the objects of this law on behalf of the citizens of Kingston; and for raising a sum not exceeding 30,000*l*. for the erection of the necessary works.

The revenue received for the gas supplied is pledged for the repay-

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ment of the money raised, with interest at five per cent. When the loan is paid off the works will be handed over to the Commissioners on behalf of the inhabitants of the city.

Law 33 of 1872. A law to provide for the erection of a public wharf, and a public bonding warehouse for the city of Kingston.

Until the year 1872 there was in Kingston no accessible public landing-place, even for passengers in boats from Port Royal, or from vessels in the harbour.

When the Victoria market was erected in 1872, a handsome and commodious stone boat-wharf was built in front of it.

When the new Custom House was established in 1869, a public wharf for merchant ships was erected in front of it. But there is still no public wharf for steam vessels; and as regular steam communication with Europe and America is increasing, this is a want which ought not to continue long.

This law follows the form adopted in the Irrigation Law, and in the Gas Works Law, except that there is no provision for the raising of money by loan. The money for carrying out the object of this law will be paid from monies in the hands of the Treasurer at the time. The Director of Roads is to carry out the object of this law, and can acquire land in Kingston for the erection of a public wharf and public bonding warehouse.

Law 34 of 1872. A law to provide for the erection of Court Houses and Public Offices in Kingston.

The transfer of the Legislative Council and Colonial Secretariat from Spanish Town to Kingston, and the impending transfer of other offices, have made it necessary to provide in Kingston a large extent of office accommodation.

It was thought very desirable, looking to the rapidly increasing value of land and house property in Kingston, to take without delay measures to render feasible the eventual concentration of a large number of the Government offices as it were under one roof, or in the close proximity of each other.

The transfer of the high courts of justice from Spanish Town to Kingston has also made new buildings and concentration as desirable for them as for other public offices.

By this law the Director of Roads, with the approval of the Governor in Privy Council, is authorized to acquire lands surrounding the Kingston parade garden for the carrying out of these objects.

The proposed site is admirably suited for the purpose, and the very great convenience to the public, and to the officials, of having all the public offices concentrated in one place, is manifest.

The new garden in course of formation in this large square will be the most ornamental feature in the city. The erection in this conspicuous place of handsome buildings for courts and public offices, in place of the mean houses now existing, would go a great way to make Kingston look like what the capital of Jamaica should look like.

The only obstacle likely to stand in the way of so great an improvement in view both to utility and beauty, is the excessive price set by the owners on the sites in question.

Law 35 of 1872. A law to abolish the office of Provost Marshal,

and to make better provision for the effective execution of legal process.

The duties of the Provost Marshal of Jamaica were very much the same as those of an English sheriff in his county.

The fees, which in old times amounted to an enormous sum, had so fallen off at the time of the death of Mr. O'Sullivan, the last Provost Marshal, in June, 1871, as to be insufficient even for the proper remuneration of the Deputy-Marshals, leaving the principal nothing to compensate him for the responsibilities of his office. Even if it had been desirable to continue the office, it would have been impossible to get any person to accept it.

It became necessary, therefore, to make a change, consequently this law was passed.

The scheme of this law is to abolish the office of Provost Marshal, to provide that the duties respecting the execution of civil process from the Supreme Court shall be performed by the bailiffs of the district courts; to transfer to the clerk of the Supreme Court the duty of making up the panels of jurors, and of striking special juries; to transfer to the Inspector-General of Police the duty of warning the jurors, whose names are contained in the panels struck by the clerk of the Supreme Court; and to transfer to the Superintendents of Prisons the duties relating to the execution of capital punishment. No alteration is made in the substantive law regulating the execution of civil process.

Law 36 of 1872. A law to allow certain barristers to practice as attorneys.

Before the passing of Law 45 of 1869, the respective rights and relative positions of barristers and attorneys were the same here as in England. But owing to the number of barristers practising in the Colony having been reduced so low, that the result was equivalent to a denial of justice, it became necessary to pass Law 45 of 1869, which constituted a limited number of attorneys, nominated by the Court, advocates with the rights and privileges of barristers as well as of attorneys. The creation of this class of advocates did undoubtedly place at a disadvantage Mr. Stern (now the only barrister, except the Attorney-General, in regular practice in Jamaica). This gentleman petitioned the Legislative Council that he might be allowed, like the advocates, to practice both as an attorney and as a barrister. Accordingly Law 36 was passed, which gives any barrister, who immediately before, or within one year after the passing of Law 45 of 1869, was entitled to practice as a barrister in Jamaica, the right to practice also as an attorney in Jamaica.

Law 37 of 1872. A law to provide for the erection and management of a public slaughter-house for the city of Kingston.

Up to the present time all beasts have been slaughtered in Kingston, at private licensed slaughter-houses of the principal butchers, all such places being actually in the town. The objections to having slaughter-houses, licensed or unlicensed, in the middle of a thickly inhabited town in the tropics, are obvious.

The objections to a system which gave a practical monopoly to a few great butchers, though not so obvious, are as important. For no butcher in too small a way of business to have a licensed slaughter-

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house of his own, was allowed the use of a licensed slaughter-house, unless he agreed to sell his meat at the price imposed by the owners of the licensed slaughter-houses.

Law 37, when it comes into force, will close all the slaughter-houses within the town, compensating the owners of them ; and will prohibit the use of any others within the town hereafter.

A suitable site has been selected in the outskirts of the town, upon the sea-side to leeward, where a commodious public abattoir will be erected, at which anyone, for a reasonable charge, will be at liberty to slaughter cattle.

Law 42 of 1872. A law to establish and secure Gray's charity, and to authorize the Governor to appoint trustees for the management thereof.

A sum of 5,000*l.* was left by Mr. John William Gray in 1854, for the use and benefit of the poor of the parish of St. Mary, but owing to some delay in realizing his estate, the executors did not pay the money till 1863.

This law vests the money (which now amounts to 8,056*l.*) in the Governor (as was directed by Mr. Gray in his will), and empowers him to appoint trustees for carrying out the objects of the charity.

Law 44 of 1872. A law to establish a fire brigade in the parish of Kingston.

Before the passing of this law, Kingston had been without the means of protection against fire afforded by an organized fire brigade. An Ordinance was passed by the Municipal Board, but questions as to its legal validity had been raised, and practically it was inoperative. This law establishes such a force. It also makes many salutary provisions in order to protect the town as much as possible from losses by fires, which are of frequent occurence within it, and to compensate owners of property sacrificed for the purpose of preventing the extension of fires. When the new Waterworks shall have brought a good supply of water into every street, Kingston will be infinitely better protected from fire than it has ever been before. I expect that the effect will be felt in a great reduction in the cost of fire insurance, which now in Kingston is enormously high.

Law 45 of 1872. A law to provide a sound and uniform system for the giving of security by officers of the Crown.

By this law all officers giving security must give it in one of the ollowing three specified ways:—

1st. By personal bond and deposit with the Treasurer to the extent required, of Jamaica Government debentures, or debentures of any public commission by law established in Jamaica, duly endorsed in favour of the Treasurer, or by personal bond and lodgment in the Government savings bank, to such extent, in the name of the Treasurer.

2nd. By personal bond, and the guarantee of any association of civil servants of the Crown in Jamaica for purposes of mutual guarantee, whereof the business is conducted according to rules that shall be approved by the Governor in Privy Council, as may be notified from time to time in the 'Jamaica Gazette.'

3rd. By personal bond, and the guarantee of any public company or association accustomed as part of their regular business to

guarantee the fidelity of any persons, which company or association is approved generally by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury as a company or association whose guarantee for such fidelity of officers of the civil service may be taken.

In connection with this law, a Mutual Guarantee Association has been established by the civil servants of the Crown in this Colony under a code of rules which has been approved of by the Governor in Privy Council. Nearly all the civil servants of the Colony who are required to give security for their fidelity in office have joined this association.

Law 46 of 1872. A law to regulate the assessment of damage by trespasses of stock.

This law, whilst it leaves the law in respect of pounding stray cattle untouched, provides that no action shall be brought for any damage done by animals of any sort trespassing on any cultivated land (except cases of wilful trespass), unless an assessor is at once called in by the complainant to assess the damage. No damages can be claimed unless the lands were sufficiently fenced. The Governor is empowered to appoint assessors for the districts under each district court. No action can lie unless the complainant shall have called in an assessor within three days after the damage was done. The judge of the district court may, however, extend the time to two weeks. The assessor has in all cases to give a certificate as to whether the land was or was not sufficiently fenced as against ordinary animals of the kind which committed the trespass.

The heavy expenses to which owners of stock have frequently been put, often on actions brought merely as attorneys' speculations, and sometimes as the result of the cultivation of unfenced land, not for the sake of the produce, but for the sake of the special damages for injury to crops obtainable from the owners of cattle naturally attracted to such land, has long formed a subject of bitter and well-founded complaint. This could not be otherwise where a law calculated on principles suited to a closely-fenced and well cultivated country, has been applied to an open country where cultivated spots, whilst comparatively rare, are highly valuable, and well worthy of costly protection, but where the great mass of the land is unfenced, and cannot be fenced because it would not be worth the cost of fencing. I find that in a large number, perhaps in nearly all the North American States, where I suppose a somewhat similar condition of things exists, laws calculated upon the contrary principle are in force; and from the description of these laws, as given in Annual Reports of the Commissioner of Agriculture at Washington, this law has been framed.

This law has been made the subject of much correspondence and argument, and it has been long under discussion. It elicited a great many petitions in its favour from numerous influential persons in various parts of the Island. Naturally all change was objected to by many persons, but the pressure in favour of the law was stronger and more lasting than I have observed before here in any like case.

On the other hand, since the passing of the law, no complaints have been made of it on the part of the cultivators of land, whether on the large scale, such as the owners of sugar estates, or on the

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small scale, such as the small settlers and possessors of provision grounds, or on the part of those ministers and others who have the interests of this last class more particularly at heart.

I am myself entirely convinced of the soundness of the principles on which this law is founded, and great pains have been bestowed upon its details. Experience I doubt not will show points wherein the law may be improved, but I have the fullest confidence in its working as much to the advantage of cultivation as of cattle rearing.

Law 47 of 1872. A law to amend the law relating to medical and surgical practitioners.

This law, which is upon the guiding principles of the Imperial statute, consolidates the existing Jamaica statutes respecting medical and surgical practitioners, removes some narrow and objectionable features of the former law conducive to a monopoly, and adopts the broad and liberal spirit of modern English legislation on this subject. It greatly enlarges the number of persons who may claim to be, and to be registered as being, medical or surgical graduates in Jamaica, and thus throws open the door, in a Colony much in want of medical men, to graduates of medicine who were practically shut out before.

Formerly the only persons entitled to be registered and to practice, were :—

1st. Certain persons who were practising medicine or surgery in Jamaica before the passing of 23 Vic., session 1, chapter 17.

2nd. Persons registered under the Imperial Act 21 and 22 Vic., chapter 90.

3rd. Persons who pass an examination in Jamaica before a local Medical Board.

As no graduate of any noted foreign or colonial Medical School could be expected to submit himself to be examined by a local Medical Board of a small Island such as Jamaica, the effect of the former legislation was to prohibit foreign medical graduates, however able and experienced, and however much they might have the confidence of their patients, from practice in this Island, under pain of punishment by the criminal laws.

A painful case occurred in connection with the former state of the law amongst the Cuban refugees, now an important class of Jamaica colonists.

The present law extends the right to be registered in Jamaica to all medical and surgical graduates, registered or entitled to practice in any province of the Dominion of Canada, or in any other British Colony ; and to all persons holding a diploma or certificate obtained after passing through a course of study in any British or foreign institution, as thorough as is the minimum course in any like case approved by Her Majesty's Privy Council under Section 21 of 21 and 22 Vic., chapter 90.

There is no longer a penalty for practising the curative art, when there is no deception or concealment as to his true status by the person practising.

In the course of the year under report the following laws, being adaptations of English statutes, were passed :—

Law 2 of 1872. A law to amend the law relating to bills of lading.

The effect of this law is to entitle the assignee of goods comprised in a bill of lading to sue on the contract contained in the bill of lading, in the same way as if the contract had been made with himself. This law is in the same words as the English statute 18 and 19 Vic., chapter 111, which renders bills of lading negotiable.

Law 17 of 1872. A law to amend the law affecting trade and commerce.

This law is founded on the imperial "Mercantile Law Amendment "Act of 1856," which dealt with certain matters connected with contracts. The most important provisions in this law related to the statute of limitations. In the statute of limitations certain persons were excepted from the necessity of bringing their actions within the prescribed time, because of their having been beyond the seas. It was reasonable that the absence of a debtor should prevent the statute from running, but it was not reasonable that a creditor, by his own act in remaining abroad, should lengthen the time within which he could bring his action. This law puts an end to this power of the creditor.

This law is as nearly the same as the Imperial Mercantile Law Amendment Act as the existing statutes and local circumstances would admit of. Section 4 applies effectively the provisions of the law to the district courts.

Law 21 of 1872. A law to amend the law relating to the coin.

Law 22 of 1872. A law to consolidate and amend the law relating to forgery.

Law 23 of 1872. A law to consolidate and amend the law relating to accessories to, and abettors of, indictable offences.

These laws are taken from the English criminal law consolidation Statutes of 1861.

In 1864 three of the six English criminal law consolidation Statutes of 1861 respecting larceny, malicious injuries, and offences against the person, respectively, were adopted in Jamaica, and were embodied in the Jamaica Statutes. These laws have now introduced into Jamaica the three Statutes not adopted in 1864, and complete the criminal law consolidation Statutes.

Law 24 of 1872. A law to remove some defects in the administration of the criminal law.

This law was passed for the purpose of amending the criminal law in various matters of detail. With the exception of Section 3, the law deals with questions of procedure alone, and not with any question of substantive law. This section relates to co-partnerships. Formerly a person being a member of a co-partnership could not be punished criminally for carrying away or appropriating to his own uses any part of the property belonging to the co-partnership. This law imposes criminal liability in such cases, and deals with the person so offending as if he were not a partner.

Law 25 of 1872. A law for the further amendment of the administration of the criminal law.

This law provides for the proper arguing and deciding of any difficult question of law, which may arise in criminal trials in the circuit courts. Formerly the only way in which such points could come before the Supreme Court was by the accused moving for a new

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trial or to quash the indictment. The judge had no power to raise the question on a point of law.

The effect of the provisions of this law will be to give to the Supreme Court the jurisdiction now possessed by the English Court for the consideration of Crown cases reserved; and the power of the judge to reserve cases at the trial will be the same in Jamaica as in England. This law applies to cases tried in the District Courts, as well as in the Circuit Courts.

Law 26 of 1872. A law for consolidating in one law certain provisions usually inserted in acts and laws authorizing the taking of lands for undertakings of a public nature.

This law provides for Jamaica, as the Lands Clauses Act, 1845, has done for England, a code for regulating the rights and procedure in cases where land is taken compulsorily under statutory powers.

Law 41 of 1872. A law for the amendment of the procedure of the Supreme Court of Judicature.

This law is as nearly similar as possible to the three English Common Law Procedure Acts of 1852, 1854, and 1860: the differences being only those which local circumstances require.

The general rules, practice, and procedure in pleading, as in substantive law, were originally the same in Jamaica as in England, subject of course to occasional differences caused by local legislation. But since the passing of the English Law Procedure Acts, there has been more difference between English and Jamaica practice than before that time, in consequence of these three Statutes having been only partially adopted in Jamaica.

Before the passing of this law the practice and procedure in the Supreme and Circuit Courts and Judges' Chambers, may be roughly stated to be the practice and procedure that prevailed in England before the passing of the Common Law Procedure Acts, subject to the two Jamaica Statutes, 27 Victoria, chapter 14, and 28 Victoria, chapter 37, each of which embodied fragments of the English Statutes. Much of the Common Law Procedure Acts, however, which would have been useful, was omitted in the two Jamaica Statutes. For instance, all that related to the actions of ejectment in the English Acts was omitted in the two Jamaica Statutes; and consequently the old action of ejectment, with its absurd fictions of Doe and Roe, &c., &c., continued to flourish in this Colony until this law came into operation.

Finance.

The year 1871–72, the sixth year under the new Constitution, is the fourth consecutive year in which a large surplus of revenue over expenditure has been obtained. The accounts of this year, excluding the Immigration accounts, which are always separately treated, show a surplus of 39,819*l.*, after allowing for 4,667*l.*, which have been invested in securities bought for sinking funds for the eventual redemption of debt. From this surplus 6,404*l.* have been applied to the payment of debt by the redemption of debentures which became ripe for redemption, thus reducing the amount of the surplus available for other objects to 33,415*l.* Of this last amount 9,170*l.* are avail-

able for special objects, being the surplus over expenditure of special revenues appropriated to particular services (parochial roads, poor rates, lighthouses, &c.), and will be funded for those particular services. The remainder, 24,245*l.*, is available for general purposes.

This is a very satisfactory result, inasmuch as this continuing surplus accrues, with no increase of taxation, and is in the face of a large expenditure on public works of utility and importance, of a largely increasing expenditure on such departments as those of education and medicine, and of some increase of expenditure in those administrative and revenue departments, which necessarily require development as the population and wealth of the Colony become developed.

The following figures give the actual results of the year 1871–72.

	£
General revenue - - - - -	405,227
General expenditure, including debt redemption, and investment - - -	380,982
Surplus - - -	24,245

	£
Appropriated revenues - - -	54,797
Expenditure - - - - -	45,627
Surplus - - -	9,170
Gross surplus - -	£33,415

This surplus is shown after charging as expenditure 20,931*l.*, expended on certain special services for public works and buildings, which expenditure it had been intended in framing the estimates at the outset of the year to defray from past balances, but which, from the unexpected fruitfulness of all the sources of revenue, have been met from the Treasury receipts within the year.

Adding to the surplus of 24,245*l.*, available for general purposes from the revenues of this year, the sum of 26,674*l.*, being the unexpended balance of surplus revenues of former years, the total sum of 50,919*l.* becomes now available for any special services for which it may be required, Of this amount it is proposed to appropriate 22,376*l.* in the current year for special services upon roads and bridges, and for new public buildings. After this appropriation there will still remain 28,543*l.*, in the public chest, available for any further special service that may be required hereafter.

The Immigration Fund Account is not included in the above figures. Its revenue and expenditure for the year were as follow:—

	£
Revenue - - - - -	34,540
Expenditure - - - -	62,269

The difference between immigration revenue and expenditure was defrayed partly from the assets to the credit of the fund at the com-

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mencement of the year, and partly by an immigration loan of 13,400*l.*

The following Table shows the whole of the Treasury receipts in the year 1871–72, both of revenue and of other monies, as compared with those of the year immediately preceding.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of RECEIPTS for the YEARS 1871–72 and 1870–71.

	1871–72.	1870–71.	More.	Less.
	£	£	£	£
Import Duties and Fees	224,077	193,226	30,851	—
Light Dues	2,905	2,461	444	—
Excise—Rum and Still Duty	86,171	75,254	10,917	—
„ Spirit Licences	15,765	13,305	2,460	—
Trade Licences (old)	817	502	315	—
„ (new)	7,203	6,506	697	—
Stamps	13,528	12,076	1,452	—
Land Tax (old)	8,772	8,191	581	—
Property Tax	4,826	4,788	38	—
Poor Rate—House Tax	24,912	22,978	1,934	—
Parochial Road Tax—Horses and Wheels	24,821	26,338	—	1,517
Dog Tax	183	120	63	—
Post Office	13,887	13,640	247	—
Interest	4,135	4,096	39	—
Miscellaneous	28,022	25,253	2,769	—
Total Revenue	460,024	408,734	51,290	—
IMMIGRATION REVENUE.				
Export Duty	22,686	20,007	2,679	—
Capitation Tax, &c.	9,679	7,287	2,392	—
Interest	2,175	1,855	320	—
RECEIPTS ON DEBT ACCOUNT.				
Excess of Deposits in Treasury over withdrawals	74,471	—	74,471	—
Immigration Loan	13,400	30,000	—	16,600
Grand Total Receipts	582,435	*467,833	114,552	—

* This total differs from the total shown in last year's report, because it includes the interest on securities held for Sinking Funds which did not formerly appear.

The very great increase in the amount received for import duties is due to the renewed improvement in trade manifested in the year under report. The recovery in the trade of the island commenced in the year 1868. In the year 1870–71 trade seems to have found a sort of rest point; but this last year it has made another great start, and the upward progress is continuing to the present moment The increase under the heads of rum duty and spirit licences is also remarkable; and now at last the expectations which I ventured to hold out in 1866 as a distant prospect, when the rum duty was raised from 2*s.* 9*d.* to 5*s.* per gallon, have been justified, and much more than justified.

It will be observed that in this last year every item of revenue, with the single exception of the horse and wheel tax for parochial roads, which shows a small casual decrease, shows an increase over the corresponding item in the preceding year, which nevertheless was one of prosperity then unequalled.

Below is a Table showing the Treasury disbursements of the year under report, both on account of current expenditure and on all other accounts, contrasted with those of the preceding year.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE for the YEARS 1871–72 and 1870–71.

	1871–72.	1870–71.	More.	Less.
	£	£	£	£
Civil	23,036	21,414	1,622	—
Judicial	17,817	15,753	2,064	—
„ District Courts	13,081	13,795	—	714
Revenue	34,871	34,952	—	81
Public Gardens, &c.	1,884	2,209	—	325
Post Office	13,563	13,920	—	357
Ecclesiastical	18,773	19,128	—	355
Medical	28,547	25,649	2,898	—
Constabulary	44,101	45,316	—	1,215
Prisons, Penitentiary, and Reformatories	22,090	21,805	285	—
Education	14,574	11,778	2,796	—
Miscellaneous	7,937	5,761	2,176	—
Military	3,606	3,398	208	—
Roads	53,576	43,308	10,268	—
Buildings	31,768	14,016	17,752	—
Irrigation	—	784	—	784
Land Expenses	922	544	378	—
Pensions	12,749	12,509	240	—
Lighthouses	1,374	1,243	131	—
Harbour Masters	103	102	1	—
Parochial Expenditure	23,839	23,222	617	—
Steam Communication with New York	4,583	2,924	1,659	—
Interest on Debt	42,745	43,268	—	523
Total current Expenditure	415,539	376,798	38,741	—
EXPENDITURE FROM SURPLUS REVENUES.				
Public Buildings	—	8,931	—	8,931
New Roads and Bridges	—	12,935	—	12,935
Census	—	4,103	—	4,103
Sinking Funds	4,667	7,890	—	3,223
Redemption of Debt from current Revenue	6,404	650	5,754	—
„ „ „ surplus Revenue of previous years	300	11,344	—	11,044
Expenditure on Services for which Loans were raised	—	6	—	6
Excess of Withdrawals over Deposits	—	11,146	—	11,146
Total Disbursements, exclusive of Charges on Immigration Fund Account	426,910	433,803	—	6,893
Charges on Immigration Fund Account	62,269	45,466	16,803	—
Grand Total Disbursements	489,179	479,269	9,910	—

The increased expenditure under the head "Civil," is caused by the fact that in one year the salaries of the Governor and staff are 7,092*l.*; in the next they stand at 7,592*l.*; 500*l.* apparent increase, caused by a portion of one year's salary not being drawn till the next; the only establishment that has increased is that of the Director of Roads, the expense of which is increased by the employment for the whole year of the extra engineers who were added in the year before last to the Director of Roads' staff, and by additional appointments which it has been found necessary to make in that department.

That under the head "judicial," by an increase in the salary of the Puisne judge, and in the salaries of the petty session clerks.

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That under the head medical, is in consequence of the growth of the department, and by the Government having assumed the management of the several parochial hospitals.

On the whole the financial results of the year 1871–72 have been good beyond all expectation, manifesting the continuance of the condition of rapidly increasing prosperity which commenced before the close of the year 1868, and has not yet been interrupted.

Pensions.

During this year pensions in compensation for abolition of office were granted to the extent of 123*l.* Superannuation pensions were granted to the amount of 301*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*, to officers who retired in usual routine; and the pension list has been relieved to the amount of 677*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* by deaths of pensioners.

Debt.

No loan chargeable to the general revenues of the Colony was raised in the year 1871–72.

A further sum of 13,400*l.*, however, was borrowed under the provisions of the Immigration laws on the security of the Immigration Revenues, in order to pay for the introduction of Immigrants. This issue, as was the issue last year, is made payable in fifteen annual and equal instalments. The first instalment is to be paid off one year after the date of the issue of the debentures. The debentures to be redeemed each year are determined by lot.

The Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks Commissioners also raised, during this year, 32,000*l.*, in order to carry out the new works for the improvement of the water supply of the city and parish.

As the outstanding 50,000*l.* of the Guaranteed Immigration Loan under 15 Vic. cap. 39 fell due in June last, it became necessary to provide for meeting it by the issue to the public to the extent of 38,000*l.* of the new guaranteed debentures which, having been created in 1870 under the authority of Law 39 of 1869 and the Imperial Statute 32 and 33 Vic., chapter 69, had been held in reserve by the Crown Agents for this purpose. These debentures were accordingly written off the debt due by the general public, and added to the amount due by the immigration fund. The remaining 12,000*l.* to meet the 50,000*l.*, were defrayed from the cash balance of the immigration fund.

During the year 6,404*l.* of debt, as the debentures became payable, were paid off from the current revenues of the year; 7,946*l.* were paid off from sinking funds falling in; 600*l.* were paid off from the surplus revenue of the preceding year, in which the debentures representing that amount had been called in but had not been presented for payment; and 300*l.* were paid off from the accumulated surplus of appropriated revenues applicable thereto. A sum of 4,667*l.* was invested in sinking funds for the eventual redemption of debt on account of Island loans for general objects; and an investment of 841*l.* 10*s.* was made from the immigration revenues in sinking funds for the several immigration loans.

The public debt secured on the general revenues stood as follows on the 30th of September of each of the last seven years, after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt:—

	£	s.	d.
1866	682,466	11	5
1867	718,952	18	10
1868	706,964	18	0
1869	686,830	9	2
1870	609,505	11	3
1871	591,656	5	6
1872	571,542	1	3

For each year to these sums must be added the amounts due by the Treasury to certain local works for which loans had been specially raised by Statute. This debt is now largely reduced.

The interest paid on debt amounted to 42,745*l.*, being a reduction of 523*l.* on the amount paid last year.

The debt secured on the revenues of the immigration fund, stood as follows at the corresponding periods:—

	£	s.	d.
1866	74,850	6	3
1867	69,138	0	3
1868	64,175	14	3
1869	59,213	8	3
1870	56,138	0	0
1871	84,169	7	0
1872	80,564	16	7

In this last year, as has been stated, a new loan of 13,400*l.* was taken up, and 17,000*l.* of former debenture debt was paid off.

The interest paid on immigration loans during the year amounted to 3,936*l.*

By law the debt of the immigration fund at any time outstanding, cannot exceed 150,000*l.*, and each loan of those whereof this debt may consist must be wholly redeemed within fifteen years from the time of its having been raised.

Legislative Council.

Colonel J. W. Cox, C.B., senior military officer in command of the troops, took his seat as a member of the Legislative Council on the 15th of August, 1872.

Mr. Peter Moncrieffe, an unofficial member, in consequence of the state of his health, resigned his seat on the 16th of November 1871, and in his room Mr. James Mitchell Gibb was appointed on the 16th of February 1872.

Mr. Samuel Rennalls, who has left the Island with the intention of residing in England, resigned his seat on the 13th of June, 1872.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. Charles Hamilton Jackson was appointed Island Secretary on the 2nd of September 1872, in the room of Mr. William T. March, deceased.

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Mr. Charles Jeffery and Mr. Robert Kerr were appointed District Court Judges in the room of Mr. Patrick Blair resigned, and Mr. Harry Davidson deceased.

Eight medical men arrived from England to take appointments as Government Medical Officers.

The office of Provost Marshal General, described in my last year's Report, was abolished, and the civil duties hitherto performed by that officer are now perfermed by the bailiffs of the district courts.

The office of Episcopalian Chaplain to the General Penitentiary was abolished on the 30th of September 1872; in conformity with the principle of disestablishment. Provision has been made for the regular conduct of Sunday services in the prison under a voluntary system, by ministers of every religious denomination. A schoolmaster has been appointed who will perform many of the minor duties of a chaplain.

Land.

Notifications preparatory to proceedings for forfeiture have been published for 78,915 acres of land, in consequence of the land tax and quit rents not having been paid for 10 years.

Several very important actions, in which the Crown was prosecutor, for the ejectment of squatters holding with no color of title, were decided. 13 properties, containing in all 6,119 acres, were recovered, and 318 squatters were ejected from them, fiduciary possession being given to the Crown for want of owners or apparent owners.

The whole of these cases were cases of persons who had taken possession of land without color of right or title. All of them, however, were not cases of black squatters who had taken possession of small parcels of land. One of the properties mentioned is a fine grazing farm containing 2,059 acres, and the one squatter ejected in that case was a gentleman of large property in the Colony. Another of the properties mentioned consists of a run of land containing 135 acres, unquestionably Crown property, and the one squatter ejected was a gentleman of property, and one who had held very high office in the Colony under the late Constitution.

An appeal was made to the Supreme Court in this last-mentioned case, against the order of the District Court giving possession to the Crown. The Supreme Court confirmed the order, and commented strongly on the conduct of the defendant, who, having himself no color of title, had executed what was intended to be a deed of trust conveying it away for the benefit of his son; which, under the possessory laws of the Colony, was expected to grow into a good title, and so to oust both the Crown and several smaller squatters.

These cases show that the Squatter's Law is equally applied to all colors and classes. The last is one of the cases which prove the political necessity there was for taking strong action against every sort of squatting. For I have received petitions and deputations from the small black squatters upon parcels of the estate in question, who had watered the soil with the sweat of their brows; but whom the one great squatter, without even that primitive title, was attempting by all means to supplant. These people, well knowing that their title was no worse than that of the person who was endeavouring to eject them,

were naturally in a state of great anxiety and discontent, kept down only by the assurance that the law was about to be invoked by the Crown. These small squatters rejoice at the results of proceedings which have afforded them the opportunity, on payment of the fair value, of becoming lawful owners or leaseholders of the lands in their possession; with no liability to be dispossessed by a strong-handed neighbour of what they have spent their labor upon. I have just learnt that they have all clubbed together to purchase the lands.

Proceedings have also been taken, and judgments pronounced, for escheating to the Crown the properties of persons dying intestate, and leaving no heirs or other persons having equitable claim to such properties.

I may here state that since such proceedings began to be taken in 1870, six properties, containing 789 acres of land, and three houses in towns, the whole valued at 1,639*l.*, have been escheated.

Public Works.

The total expenditure on main roads and bridges during the past year has been as follows:—

	£
Maintenance and repairs - - -	22,244
Special services - - - - -	4,454
Parochial services - - - -	2,437
	£29,135

This sum is much less than that expended in the previous year, which was exceptional, owing to the heavy rainfall in 1870 having caused unusual damage to the roads and bridges.

Upon the parochial roads, 25,215*l.* were expended by the Parochial Road Boards from their four-fifths share of the horse and wheel tax; and from special grants to the amount of 4,736*l.* made for these roads from the one-fifth share of the same tax which is under Government control, to those parishes which, having appointed paid parochial road superintendents, have the best means of properly superintending the application of such grants.

The money expended on all roads and bridges of late years is shown in the following Table:—

	1865–66.	1866–67.	1867–68.	1868–69.	1869–70.	1870–71.	1871–72.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Main roads and bridges - -	18,182	12,710	15,746	18,840	26,676	35,967	29,135
Parochial roads -	12,464	14,093	13,190	16,579	18,055	20,273	25,215
£	30,646	26,803	28,936	35,419	44,731	56,240	54,350

The rate of expenditure upon the maintenance and repairs of main roads has been 31*l.* a mile, including bridges.

The grand interior road, which forms the north-western portion of the most direct line of road between Falmouth (the capital of the

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north side of the Island) and Kingston, has had considerable improvements made to it.

The line of new road across the ridge of hills forming as it were the backbone of the Island, which is to connect St. Elizabeth with Trelawny, has now been almost determined on, and has been partly laid out and constructed as a bridle road. This is a very important work, as it will open up a large and fertile tract of country, and will give a direct means of communication between the north and south sides of the central parts of the Island. From the peculiarly rugged and the jungly nature of the country, the lining of this road has been a work of great difficulty. Any railroad across the Island, that may be hereafter constructed, is likely to follow this line of road. At present it is only intended to construct a bridle path ; but the line is so laid out, that whenever necessary it can be easily converted into a carriage road.

The roads generally throughout the Island are in good order. This fact I learn not only from official reports, but also from the statements of intellegent and disinterested travellers, both Europeans and Americans, who seldom fail to express surprize at the good state of the principal roads in this Island.

Bridges.

The Dry River bridge, a great work, is now, so far as the masonry is concerned, well advanced, and I have reason to hope that it may be opened for traffic before the end of the present year. This work, commenced and abandoned under the late Constitution, has taken much more time, even since it was recommenced, than it ought to have taken. But there have been accidents for which allowance must be made. Strangely enough, considering the character of the work, the chief cause of delay was the impossibility of procuring water for several months together. Nevertheless the channel has been known to be impassable for weeks together in the rainy season.

The bridge at King's Valley in Westmoreland, over the Calrita River, of 22 feet span, has been rebuilt.

Another bridge over the Hope River, making the fourth upon one short line of road, has been erected. These bridges have much facilitated the means of communication between Kingston and Newcastle, the cantonment in the mountains where the white troops are stationed.

An iron bridge of a total length of 135 feet, in four spans, has been erected over the Rio Colre, at the Angels, three or four miles above Spanish Town, to replace one destroyed by a flood several years ago.

A wooden bridge for horse and foot passengers has been thrown over the Salt Spring, a branch of the Black River, thereby opening up a direct communication with the town of Black River to the people living on the flat lands opposite.

A new iron bridge of 46 feet span, with masonry abutments, has been almost completed at Blue Hole, on the road between Montego Bay and Lucea.

The masonry for the Juno Gully bridge, which has a span of

25 feet, has been finished, and the iron superstructure is about to be placed thereon. This bridge is on the line of approach to the Dry River bridge.

Public Buildings.

The expenditure under this head has been 36,322*l.* The principal items are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Hospitals, asylums, and poor-houses -	8,878	10	4
Markets - - - - -	4,607	15	0
Prisons and reformatories - - -	3,329	15	4
Courts and public offices - - -	3,040	2	8

Coolie Hospitals.—The union hospital at Hordley in Saint Thomas has been much enlarged, and has now accommodation for 120 patients. Also an hospital has been established in Saint Mary to hold 30 patients; and another at Savanna la Mar is nearly completed, to hold 80 patients.

Parochial Hospitals.—A residence for the matron has been added to the hospital at St. Ann's Bay.

A small-pox hospital has been erected at Kingston, to hold 60 patients, including a residence for the staff.

Lunatic Asylum.—A new and commodious kitchen has been added to this most creditable institution, as well as rooms for curing the large quantities of fish daily caught in the waters of the harbour by the patients.

Court-houses.—The court-house at Mandeville has been enlarged, and extensive repairs have been done to that at Black River.

Prisons.—A separate prison for prisoners afflicted with leprosy has been constructed in Spanish Town.

Constabulary.—A new barrack has been erected at Old Harbour. At Gayle a building has been purchased by Government and adapted as a police station.

Kingston Market and Landing Place.—On the 24th of May, Her Majesty's birthday, the market and public landing-place were formally opened by me; and the market was named after Her most Gracious Majesty "The Victoria Market."

The building, which is a remarkably handsome and very commodious iron structure, is contained within a rectangular space 306 feet by 159 feet; the area under cover is 3,837 square yards; and there are 246 stalls for sellers. There is a fountain at the main entrance. The total weight of iron used is 621 tons, and the gross cost was 23,448*l.*

The public landing-place of the town is opposite the market. It is 60 feet in length and 21 feet in breadth, with stone steps and flooring, and it is covered with a light iron roof. A second landing-place has been provided for the use of fishermen and others bringing things to market by water. The cost of these landing-places was 2,094*l.* This sum includes the cost of building a handsome cut stone quay wall in front of the market, 233 feet in length.

Kingston has now got a market and a public landing-place which would be creditable to any town. In former years there was no

practicable public landing-place, and the markets were a public disgrace.

I may mention that the market has cost nothing either to the town or to the revenues of the Colony. The whole cost has been raised by debentures bearing interest at six per cent., which interest is amply covered by the market fees; and there is every probability, indeed there is a certainty, that in the course of not very many years the debt will be paid off, and the market will then become the property of the town.

An iron market is now in course of erection at Lucea. A similar one is ready to be put up at Green Island. I believe that handsome and commodious market-houses are appreciated by the people, and that they have a civilizing effect. Wherever the market fees promise to repay the cost, the Government is prepared to erect market-houses of this character.

Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks.—The culvert for conveying the water from the Hope to the new service reservoir, a distance of $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles, has now been completed. The pipes for the new system of distribution are now in course of being laid in Kingston.

District Courts.

On the 1st of September, 1872, on the occasion of the departure on long leave of absence of one of the District Court Judges, one of the eight District Courts was abolished; and simultaneously a re-arrangement was made of the districts of five of the others By this change the Island is divided into seven districts, each containing two complete parishes. I expect that this number will be found sufficient for some time to come.

The business transacted during the last five years by these new courts is shown in this summary:—

	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.
Criminal trials - - -	348	1,256	1,712	1,831	2,473
Small causes - - - -	2,091	3,133	5,509	7,321	7,396
Equity cases - - -	10	2	10	13	15
Cases under the Land Law -	86	133	137	353	485
Insolvency cases - - -	nil.	9	147	42	nil.
Bankruptcy cases - - -	nil.	nil.	nil.	nil.	5
Probate cases - - -	nil.	35	43	42	31
Amount claimed - - -	£16,393	£22,919	£29,070	£35,958	£39,896
Judgment obtained for -	8,997	11,386	14,919	18,580	15,770
Costs - - - - - -	1,163	2,109	2,774	3,350	3,493
Court fees - - - -	1,238	2,154	3,225	4,424	4,432

During the year 1872 there were eight appeals from the decisions of these courts, four being in criminal cases and four in civil cases. The Supreme Court reversed the decision in one case, which was a criminal case, and confirmed the decisions in the seven other cases.

Botanic Gardens.

Improvements have been made in the garden at Castleton. A fern house has been completed; the natural stream by which the garden is

watered has been regulated; and a handsome tank has been built for the Victoria Regia. Something has been done towards giving the more ornamental part of the garden, generally, a more finished appearance than it had.

Sugar Canes.—Nearly sixty varieties, the survivors of ninety varieties, of canes have been received this year from Mauritius, new to Jamaica. These will be extensively multiplied by the end of the current year, when they will be subjected to experiment, with a view to test their comparative values.

Applications have been made for more than 12,000 cuttings of the Salangore cane, which will be available for sale in the course of the current year. Unfortunately, a large proportion of the cuttings which were supposed to be of the Salangore sugar cane, referred to in my Report of last year, proved to be of another variety, so that the delivery of the canes applied for has been retarded.

Sarsaparilla.—An acre of this plant has been established, very much with the view of ascertaining how far cultivation and selection will improve its quality. Experience has shown that this root, produced in certain districts of the Island, realizes higher prices than that produced in other districts. Yet no specific distinction in the plants is perceptible.

Chocolate, Cacao.—This valuable product, which more than a century ago was largely cultivated in Jamaica, now meets with very little attention. It is peculiarly well suited to many places in the Island. With a view to excite attention to it, an acre of this plant has been established at Castleton, under the shade of plantains, and this little plantation will be extended.

Nutmegs.—This plant seems to be now more prized here than any other of our exotics; judging from the number of applications made for plants. The tree has been introduced for forty years or more, and it produces fruit of quite the finest quality; and in great profusion; whilst large tracts in parts of this Island where it is unknown are admirably adapted for its cultivation. It is believed that there are not more than fifty bearing trees now in the Island. Most of these are in the neighbourhood of the old Botanical Garden at Bath, in Saint Thomas. The nutmeg trees at Castleton are now beginning to bear, and the propagation of the plant by seedlings is commencing upon what will soon be a fair scale.

The new varieties of pine-apples and oranges, and the lately imported Bombay mangoes, are doing very well indeed, (the mangoes especially) and are in course of being propagated as fast as possible. I expect the finest varieties of the Bombay mangoe to become, in time, an article of export to New York, producing an enormous profit to those who may have the forethought to establish orchards of this unsurpassed fruit, in suitable spots here. Also the Vanilla thrives very well at Castleton, and the flowers are artificially fertilized, with complete success, by the new gardener, Mr. Kendall, selected for us by Dr. Hooker, whose services in all respects have been most valuable. The true pepper plant has been introduced, and does well. The true Mangosteen tree is thriving; whether it will fruit here, or not, remains to be seen. Our small Ipecacuanha plants are doing perhaps a little, but a very little, better than last year.

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Some plants of the Indian Teak, and other valuable Indian timber trees have been raised from seeds obtained from the Calcutta garden.

Tobacco.—Plots of Manilla, Havana, Kentucky and Latakia tobacco have been grown. The first and last of these tobacco plants seem to thrive peculiarly well here. The sudden spring that the cultivation of tobacco has just taken in this Colony, renders the question of tobacco seed one of great interest and importance. Our garden must possess all the most highly prized varieties of this plant. But from all I can learn, Jamaica has as good a right to send tobacco seed abroad, as any other place has. I have heard of a preference being given to the seed of Jamaica plants, to seed imported from Havana of the same variety. And I have heard of Cuban settlers here who have pronounced the quality of some leaf now growing here, upon plants whereof the cultivation happened to have been attended to with the needful care and skill, to be already equal in size and quality to that of the best Cuban leaf.

For a few years past the Superintendent of our Botanic Garden has been distributing here small packets of tobacco seeds, at the rate of two hundred packets a year. These packets contain five varieties of seed, originally procured from Kew.

I cannot mention Kew, without observing that infinite as have been the services of Dr. Hooker to every part of the British Empire, there is no spot in that Empire which has greater reason for gratitude to that eminent man, than this Island of Jamaica.

Palms.—A comparatively large addition has been made this year to this great family. Four years ago, to our discredit, we had only twenty species of palms in our Botanic Garden, in which not even the palms indigenous to Jamaica were fully, or nearly fully, represented. Our collection now numbers nearly a hundred. The area of cultivation devoted to the palmetum is yearly increasing; and I have set apart a large portion of our available area, in the most striking position, to be planted with this tribe of trees. The introduction of new species of commercial and economical value, has been specially attended to. All the palms hitherto obtained from both sides of the world, promise to thrive extremely well at Castleton. There is nothing to prevent the palmetum there becoming, in time, and at an inconsiderable cost, as fine a palmetum, to say the very least, as any in the world. I have endeavoured to get it to be felt here, that it is the palmetum that should be looked to as the future scientific specialty of the place. And we are now beginning to make a little advance in this direction. The area now occupied by palms planted out, and of such a size as to be at all conspicuous, is but a small portion of the area intended for this family. Already, however, it is the most striking feature of the garden.

Cinchona Plantations.

The total area now planted is two hundred acres. Much more land has been cleared, and more land would have been planted this year, but unfortunately many thousands of the young seedlings were attacked by an epidemic disease, which destroyed them. This disease only appeared amongst the very young seedlings. When it ceased, those that survived appear to have suffered no injury. But

the numbers immediately available for planting out were greatly reduced.

Bark from each of the five varieties we possess was sent home to be analysed in London, by a distinguised authority on the subject of quinine. He stated that the result was "highly satisfactory as regards "the prospect of Cinchona cultivation in Jamaica." He further reported that "the C. Calisaya has already attained a percentage of "quinine which would fit it for the purposes of the manufacturer."

The trees which produced the bark thus described were only plants of three years old.

Island Chemist.

The Annual Report of the Island Chemist this year contains much interesting and new information, of which of course no analysis can be attempted here. One fact therein shown, however, I may mention, as being unexpected as well as satisfactory, and as partly accounting for the great healthiness of Kingston as a tropical town; namely, the purity of the water supplied by the pipes from the Hope River; which has even less of organic impurities than the Glasgow water from Loch Katrine, and less also of nitrogenous impurities. It has six degrees less of hardness than the average of the water supplied to London; and is, in fact, water of quite first-rate quality. The Report contains valuable information on some poisonous plants of Jamaica, and on some plants falsely reputed to be so. This, and all other official reports of general and permanent interest, are published regularly in a weekly supplement to the official Gazette, in which publication is now to be found, neatly printed, nearly all the important statistical and general imformation annually obtained by the Government. The supplement may be purchased separately, and I think those much interested in the Colony, whether here or at home, would do well to take it regularly in.

Education.

College.—I had hoped that something more effective might have been done within the year under report, in preparation for opening a college which has been for some time in contemplation, and has now been resolved upon, than the mere clearing out of the fine buildings in Spanish Town which have been set apart for this important institution. Accordingly, a sum of 2,000*l.* was placed upon the estimates for the year, and became available for this purpose. But no part of this money was expended. The buildings in Spanish Town have been cleared out. The Governor's former official residence, will constitute the professors' quarters, the examination hall, the refectory, the kitchens, and the servants' rooms of the college. The Governor's official residence has been transferred to the house and park near Kingston, which belonged to the late bishoprick of Jamaica, and has been purchased from the voluntary Church of England in this Island.

The office of the secretariat, the council chamber, and the Supreme Court, formerly in buildings which will be the dormitories and lecture rooms of the college, have been transferred to Kingston, much to the

public convenience. The libraries and geological museum, now in buildings which will also form part of the college, are in process of transfer to Kingston, where they will become really available to the public. All is ready for the reception of the collegiate staff, and I have just learnt that not many weeks will elapse before the arrival of a principal will enable me to take those preparatory steps, which can only be taken safely in consultation with the future head of the institution.

Training Schools.—The Government Training Institution at Stony Hill has completed its second year, and it now contains its complement of twenty resident scholars. Five students received certificates of qualification as schoolmasters from this institution, within the year under report. In future it may be expected to turn out at least double that number annually. The Superintendent complains of the low standard in attainments of the competitors for admission as students. And there is doubtless a want in the educational institutions of the Island, to fill the gap between the best elementary schools for children and institutions partaking of the nature of a college for young men. But the great difficulty, the move at the bottom of the scale, has been overcome; and I have no fear for what is to follow. There seems to be no reason to complain of the diligence or ability of the young men who attain by competition the desirable position of a student in this training school.

Besides the twenty young men in training for schoolmasters at Stony Hill, there are six Government students undergoing similar training, in connection with the Government Model Industrial School at Port Antonio; and there are nine young men placed by Government as extra students at the Mico Normal School in Kingston. Thus the Government maintains now thirty-five young men in training colleges. There are five private training institutions, maintaining independently of Government aid about seventy-eight pupils. There is still a great want of trained schoolmasters, but year by year this want is becoming supplied. This year, of the schools inspected 258 teachers were trained men, and 202 untrained. In 1868, the first year of inspection under the new system, there were 136 trained teachers to 152 untrained. In the interval, whilst the untrained teachers have increased in number by about one third, the trained teachers have not far from doubled in number.

Elementary Schools.—The year under report is the fifth since the grant in aid regulations came into force. Every year since this system was introduced there has been a great and steady increase, both in the number and efficiency of the elementary schools. The rate of increase will be seen by comparing the results of each of the last five years, as shown in this Table:—

	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.
First-class - - -	1	3	4	6	7
Second-class - - -	6	20	35	68	94
Third-class - -	89	173	206	239	268
Exceptional (half grants)	88	21	53	47	35
Total aided -	184	217	298	360	404

486 schools were listed for examination this last year, against 430 listed for examination the year before. Of this number 438 were actually examined, the remaining 48 having been either closed for want of teachers or of means to carry them on, or not having been yet thought ready for inspection. There was an increase this year of 30 in the number of schools actually examined, as compared with last year. This number of 438 does not include some 17 or 18 endowed schools, (exclusive of 10 endowed schools which were examined), private seminaries, and a number of small elementary schools not presented for inspection.

The increase of the number of children attending the schools over that of last year, is also very satisfactory. The following Table will show the results of the year under report in this respect, as compared with the year before:—

	1870–71.	1871–72.
Pupils on books - - -	33,343	38,006
Average daily attendance - -	19,644	22,435
Present at inspection - -	23,821	27,761
School fees paid by parents - -	£5,215	£5,873
Grants in aid - - -	£8,260	£9,897

These figures do not show the whole number of children who attended schools in the Colony.

There were a number of schools not placed by their managers under Government inspection, as shown in the following list:—

	Schools.	No. of Scholars.	Income.		
			£	*s.*	*d.*
Baptist - - - -	23	1228	154	17	3
Roman Catholic - -	10	351	—		
Church of England -	8	390	83	7	6
Moravian - - - -	3	130	20	0	0
Presbyterian - - -	3	143	46	13	0
Wesleyan - - - -	1	40	10	0	0
Total - -	48	2282	314	17	9

There were also three Government Model Schools, having 237 pupils, with an expenditure of 744*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* One of these has now been closed, and its teacher's further services have been dispensed with. Its place is well supplied by a missionary school.

To this number must also be added 25 endowed schools, having 1,704 scholars, and a total income of 5,778*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*

It may fairly be taken as an approximate estimate that there are about 150 private schools, with an attendance of 3,822 scholars in addition to the foregoing numbers: so that it may be not unreasonably presumed that there are about 46,000 children in the Colony who are attending school. According to the Census of 1871 there were 128,824 children between the ages of five and fifteen, who ought, it is presumed, to be attending school. It will thus be seen that still only one-third of the children in the Colony are at school. This shows how much remains to be done here in the cause of education. But I

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am convinced that the growth of the system of elementary education, since the introduction of the new scheme, has been as rapid as was consistent with healthy growth, such as we now see. It is not the mere increase of schools, but still more the increase of good schools, for which educationalists here deserve praise. It must be remembered that the increase of schools has been simultaneous with the closing of many schools, such as the old vestry schools, which cost public money, but were worth nothing. Considering the cheering progress of real education during the last five years, I have no doubt that the proportion of children attending school to those not attending school will be reversed in a very short time. Within the last five years the number of efficient schools has increased fourfold, and the number of scholars has been doubled, whilst the daily attendance has greatly improved. As this stride has been made in this short time, and in the face of the many difficulties which always attend the introduction of a thorough system in place of one that was superficial, I think there is no cause to fear for the future.

The greatest advance is shown in the second-class schools, which are now in number more than one third greater than they were last year. In 1868 these schools formed only 2 per cent. of the whole number inspected. In 1872 they were nearly 22 per cent. I have observed in a former report that under the system in force, a school, to get a second-class, must be a thoroughly good one. This result, therefore, is very satisfactory. 17 schools which failed last year, and 21 entirely new schools, obtained third-class marks. Out of the total number of failures (34 schools) 12 had the fair excuse of being quite new schools. But the fact which shows more clearly than anything else that the standard of education has risen very much in Jamaica during the last five years, is the very great decrease in the ratio of the schools which failed to come up to the lowest Government standard to the whole number. In 1868 66 per cent. of the schools examined failed to come up to the third-class standard. In 1872 only 16 per cent. of the schools examined failed to come up to that standard. The cases of falling off were not very numerous. One first-class school of last year fell to the second-class this year, owing to the accidental absence of the head teacher; and nine second-class schools of last year fell to the third-class this year. Six of the schools which were last year in the third-class failed this year.

The distribution of grants to the 369 schools which passed by the standard amounted to 9,404*l.* 18*s.*; and 340*l.* 12*s.* was allotted to new schools exceptionally recommended. 22 schools also received help in the shape of advances to the amount of 153*l.* 16*s.* The total sum distributed in grants in aid was thus 9,897*l.* 6*s.* The average grants to each school was:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
First-class	52	7	0
Second-class	35	13	8
Third-class	21	4	0
Exceptional	9	14	7

The supplemental grants which are given for the encouragement of industrial pursuits in connection with our elementary schools, have

been nearly doubled as compared with those of last year. This is a most satisfactory feature, showing that a very perceptible movement has been at last established towards an object no less desirable than difficult of attainment. The friends of industrial education should be encouraged by this result.

The additional grants for sewing have increased by more than one-third.

In regard to the general distribution of the Government grants in aid, it may be observed that the schools of every religious denomination, without exception, have participated in the increase awarded this year: and so also has every parish in the Island, without exception, participated in the increase. There can be no better evidence to show how general is the progress which elementary education is making in the Colony; and the increase in the amount of school fees paid by the parents, is, to my mind, even a still more satisfactory sign of educational advance.

1,500*l.* was allowed this year for opening grants, and 29 schools in destitute places were thereby helped into existence.

The system of opening grants has been very successful. There are now 1 first-class school, 4 second-class schools, and 63 third-class schools, in operation, which were commenced with the help of these grants. Of all the schools so commenced, which have been inspected, only eight have failed to merit aid this year.

The total expenditure on the educational department out of the public revenues for each of the last six years was as follows:—

	£
1866–67	4,622
1867–68	4,120
1868–69	6,243
1869–70	9,189
1870–71	11,778
1871–72	14,573

In the estimates for the current year 19,403*l.* are provided for the educational department, including 2,000*l.* for the college, which I hope will be opened before the close of the year.

In proof of the hold that our elementary schools are taking of the negro population, I will here cite a passage from the last annual report of our very able and zealous Inspector of Schools.

"Further indications have appeared this year of the interest the people are beginning to manifest in the education of their children, which was referred to last year as a pleasing feature of the educational progress that is now becoming apparent everywhere. In my tour to the West, I visited two schools which had been established by the people themselves, without any assistance whatever from any societies or the Government. From a simple desire to have their children educated, they had organized their own school committees, laid down rules for themselves, and agreed to pay certain rates to secure this important object. They had, moreover, so far as their scanty means would allow, built tolerably fair school-houses (in one case land had just been bought upon which to build a more substantial school-house), and had furnished their children with a fair supply of books and other applicances.

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"The men composing these committees I found were of different religious societies, and had simply as neighbours combined together of their own accord for the good of the children growing up in their midst. And this they had done independently, without advice or assistance of any kind from ministers, or their respective religious societies, or even from persons of the educated classes.

"These two schools were examined (one passing a good third-class), and are on the Government list for grants in aid this year, for the first time. Similar indications of the growing interest of the people in educational matters have also come under the observation of the Assistant Inspectors."

And in proof that the impulse lately given to elementary education has already begun to show its natural consequences, I will here enter another interesting passage from the same report.

"Numerous instances have of late come under our notice of youths, on leaving our elementary schools, getting into respectable situations in counting-houses, stores, and even Government offices (not to mention the great number who start business for themselves), where they are put in the receipt of very fair pay at once, such as they could never have dreamt of but for the education they had received in the common schools. And even in some of the humblest situations of life, such as those of servants, porters, storemen, and draymen, &c., much higher pay is given to such as can read and write, than to those who cannot."

I cannot conclude this head of my report in words which would give a more trustworthy and correct view of the position which elementary education in this Colony has now attained, than by reproducing here the following remarks with which Mr. Savage concludes the same report.

"In reviewing the whole work of elementary education under the influence of the Government system of regulations that came in force in 1868, it is gratifying now to find at the end of five years that notwithstanding some opposition at first, and a good many difficulties that had to be encountered, we are enabled to report a very marked and decided advance, both in the number and condition of the schools, generally, the system still working smoothly and giving general satisfaction to all the true friends of education. The schools of every religious denomination, without exception, are on the Government list, and under regular inspection. The amount of the annual grants earned by the schools, and paid by the Government, is more than three times as much as in the first year (1868). A real interest is awakened among the people of all classes on the subject of education. Trade is evidently beginning to feel an upward tendency, owing to the increased intelligence of the people; and such a start has been given to the enlightening and elevating influences of education, as to afford the cheering prospect of Jamaica becoming in time a highly civilized and prosperous country."

Immigration.

Three ships arrived in 1871–72 with immigrants from Calcutta;

1,279 souls embarked, out of which number 79 died at sea, and 1,188 landed.

The death rate on board the ships was as follows:—

Merchantmen - - - -	2·28 per cent.
'Salisbury' - - - -	2.12 „
'Humber' - - - -	13·2 „

The mortality on board the last ship was excessive, but the ship had an unusually long passage, 163 days, and very bad weather in rounding the Cape, which seriously affected the Coolies. The Coolies on board the 'Humber,' as well as those of the other ships, were treated with great care and attention. No complaints were made by the immigrants, and they all appeared quite satisfied with the treatment they had met with on the voyage.

Six Coolies who left Jamaica last year, have returned this year.

During this year one vessel sailed for Calcutta, with 420 time-expired Coolies. These people took with them 3,855*l.* in Treasury Bills, besides valuables and specie, the amount of which cannot be ascertained.

During the year 1,599 Coolies completed their term of service, and out of this number only 420 elected to return to India. Thus almost three-fourths of the number entitled to a free passage home elected to accept the bounty and to become free settlers in Jamaica. Nothing can show more decisively that these people are satisfied with the treatment they now receive here, and that the food, climate, and all surrounding circumstances, when they can choose their own place of residence, and their own methods of earning their living, after acclimatization, are suitable to them.

At the close of the year the number of Indian immigrants in the Colony under unexpired five years' indenture was - - - - - - - - - -	4,452
The number who had served five years, but had not completed ten years' industrial residence was - - -	2,156
	6,608

Besides this number it is estimated that there are about 4,380 Coolies who are now permanent settlers, making the gross number of Indians in the Colony about 11,000.

The health of the Coolies under indenture has perceptively improved, the arrangements effected since the passing of Law 34 of 1869 having now commenced to tell. The general mortality amongst Coolies introduced since the passing of the new law has been reduced from the rate of 9·08 per annum in 1868–69 to 3·43 per annnm in 1870–71, and to 2·45 per annum in 1871–72, the year under report. These statistics for this last year include all the Coolies now under indenture; for in 1867–68 none were introduced, and those previously introduced are now out of their indentures. This decrease in the general rate of mortality is partly due to these particular returns for 1868–69, including only newly-arrived Coolies; but in great part it represents a real improvement in health, due I

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believe to improved arrangements. In the year 1869–70 the deaths of the Coolies in their second year were 7·91 per cent. Last year 1871–72 only 4·29 per cent. of the Coolies in their second year died. As the first year shows residence only for a portion of twelve months, it is the second year that affords the best criterion in respect of the mortality amongst unacclimatized Coolies. The birth rate was 1·78 per cent.

On account of the universally heavy mortality in the parish of St. Thomas, no new immigrants are now sent to that district; nor are they now allowed to be located on any estate anywhere which has been proved to be peculiarly unhealthy.

During the year another Coolie Union Hospital has been erected.

Of the patients treated in the General Coolie Depôt and Hospital

177	were discharged cured.
41	„ „ relieved.
71	returned to India.
15	died.
48	remained in depôt at close of year.
352	

Application has been made for 2,666 Coolies during the coming season.

During next season the Coolies who arrived here in 1863 will be entitled either to a return passage to India, or to receive the bounty. I am informed that very few of these people are desirous of returning to their own country.

The general conduct of the Coolies has been very good. I am also glad to be able to report that the treatment of immigrants on the estates has been very satisfactory. Mr. Alexander, the Acting Agent-General, in referring to this point, reports as follows:—

"The general treatment of the immigrants on estates has been highly satisfactory. I am glad to say that I have observed strong indications of increasing forbearance and confidence between employers and employed, and this I think is strengthened by the prompt attention which is given by the local sub-agents to their respective grievances. There can be no doubt that the successful management of Indian immigrants depends greatly on the temper and judgment of the employer, for a kind word here, a concession there, and a painstaking solicitude for the instruction of the people through the daily routine of plantation duty may lessen, if not altogether remove, the difficulties which are almost inseparable from the settlement of labourers, who are entirely ignorant of the habits, language, and customs of the country in which they are placed."

I may observe that the existence in Jamaica, under present arrangements, of comparatively a very large number of sub-agents, sufficient to be able to visit every estate once or twice a month, and oftener if occasion requires, to see with their own eyes that the Coolies are properly paid and treated, and to settle all disputes and complaints at the time and on the spot, is, so far as I am aware, peculiar to the Coolie system adopted in this Colony. For 4,452 Coolies under

indenture, we have seven local sub-agents, who act in fact as protectors of both employers and employed. The system is a little expensive; but it pays itself, I am convinced, many times over by its practical efficiency. Artificial as the Coolie system is, and must be everywhere, indentured Coolies in Jamaica occupy less time of magistrates, whether stipendiary or unpaid, and of judges, than other classes of people; and they do not give much more trouble to Government than other classes do. Jamaica also is very fortunate in its present head of the Immigration Department, Mr. A. H. Alexander.

Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and the amouut of deposits in savings banks for the last seven years are as shown below:—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
		£
1866	2,276	56,740
1867	2,278	54,807
1868	2,524	58,913
1869	3,004	74,394
1870	*469 †2,205 — 2,674	16,200 63,486 — 79,686
1871	*2,044 †982 — 3,026	93,776 11,702 — 105,478
1872	*3,396	142,240

* Government Savings Bank. † Private Savings Banks.

In the above amount of 142,240*l.* are included deposits on account of public funds to the extent of 21,267*l.*, and deposits of the Court of Chancery to the extent of 13,658*l.* The remainder, amounting to 107,315*l.*, consists of private deposits.

The Government savings bank has now entirely replaced the private savings banks, which alone were in operation up to 1870. This institution, as will be seen by the foregoing figures, is making steady and satisfactory progress.

Trade.

The value of the imports for each of the last seven years is shown below:—

	£
*1866	1,030,796
*1867	859,186
*1868	1,023,866
*1869	1,224,414
*1870	1,300,455
1870–71	1,331,185
1871–72	1,559,602

The great and steady increase of trade shown by the above Table is certainly remarkable.

* These are calendar years.

The following Table of articles imported, which were freed from duty in 1867, is given in continuation of similar Tables in former Reports.

	1866.*	1867.*	1868.*	1869.*	1870.*	1870-71.	1871-72.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Steam-engines -	nil.	101	3,046	6,904	5,460	4,738	14,033
Mills - - -	1,722	1,072	1,882	3,822	3,434	9,825	21,644
Other machinery	5,186	6,879	8,023	6,644	7,844	11,420	5,165
Pans for boiling sugar - -	1,427	603	984	2,409	4,676	4,301	6,052
Pipes for fluids -	28	374	1,331	1,202	2,493	2,165	1,801
Stills - - -	211	559	1,174	2,977	1,698	1,878	1,906
Shooks of all sorts	23,580	18,023	19,479	17,362	12,180	13,187	16,743
Staves - -	1,241	5,587	6,418	3,847	3,823	5,431	7,945
Wood hoops - -	2,346	1,225	2,773	2,264	2,981	3,857	2,653
Iron, galvanized-	464	1,238	1,985	1,902	3,142	3,818	5,666
„ other manufactures - -	638	3,184	1,174	1,215	1,933	84	56
Miscellaneous -	851	858	2,719	2,004	3,348	2,369	5,367
Total - £	37,694	39,703	50,988	52,552	53,012	63,073	89,031

* These figures are for the calendar year.

The great increase in the value of the steam-engines and mills imported during this year, is a very noticeable feature. These figures fully bear out the reports of the several collectors of taxes, who remark that everywhere planters are making efforts, by means of improved machinery and new processes, to improve their manufacture of sugar. This a new feature in the history of Jamaica sugar planting.

The value of the exports for the last seven years has been as shown below :—

	Values		
	of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
£	£	£	£
*1866	1,128,508	24,390	1,152,898
*1867	1,016,554	28,540	1,045,094
*1868	1,098,332	40,472	1,138,804
*1869	1,052,562	110,207	1,162,769
*1870	1,158,835	124,171	1,283,026
1870–71	1,196,532	52,153	1,248,685
1871–72	1,348,858	69,585	1,418,443

The increase last year in the export of produce of the Colony is large; and it is the more remarkable from being an increase in the face of a smaller sugar crop than that of last year.

The exports of the principal staples for the last seven years have been as shown in the following Table :—

	1866.*	1867.*	1868.*	1869.*	1870.*	1870–71.	1871–72.
Sugar, hhds. -	33,637	31,206	36,259	29,268	30,747	37,010	35,353
Rum, phns. - -	18,754	18,834	20,274	15,270	16,897	19,376	20,113
Coffee, lbs. -	8,413,532	6,264,861	7,758,985	5,025,812	9,047,284	5,508,989	9,510,739
Pimento, lbs. -	4,866,239	7,595,800	4,373,259	6,575,249	5,243,109	6,857,830	5,140,898
Dyewoods, fustic, and logwood, tons	36,570	48,481	49,129	118,678	84,744	59,951	80,699
Ginger, lbs. -	1,550,166	1,728,075	2,036,921	1,261,873	680,492	632,031	599,766
Arrowroot, lbs. -	70,204	44,566	27,346	11,731	6,343	5,820	13,193

* These figures are for the calendar years.

The quantity of sugar exported, though less than that of the year before, in which we had the largest sugar crop that there had been for nineteen years, was considerably above the average. I think this is evidence of improving cultivation, and in a less degree of increasing cultivation. The increase last year in the quantity of rum, notwithstanding the decrease in the quantity of sugar, is ascribed to the larger proportion of molasses preserved on several estates, in consequence of the adoption of centrifugal machines, and other improvements, for separating the crystallized from the uncrystallized sugar. As this excess of molasses would have figured as sugar had it not been converted into rum, and would have drained out of the hogsheads into the holds of the ships, the 35,353 hogsheads of 1871–72 should represent more sugar exported than the same figures would have represented in any previous year. The increase in the quantity of coffee, as compared with last year's crop, is due in part to the increasing industry and enterprise of the small settlers, who are extending their cultivation of this important staple very largely. The high price which coffee has commanded lately has been very advantageous to this Colony. Several sugar estates during this year have been purchased by wealthy Cubans, who, abandoning their own distracted island, have settled themselves here. One old sugar estate which I remember seeing a few years ago in a languishing condition, has been named to me as purchased lately by a Cuban gentleman, for which an order for 4,000*l.* worth of new machinery has just gone home. The skill, industry, and enterprize of these our new fellow-subjects must tell upon their neighbours, and thus indirectly must benefit the whole Colony.

The cultivation of tobacco according to the Cuban system, has made a satisfactory start, and is fast increasing,

By the returns of the collectors of taxes it appears that in August last there were only 91 acres of this cultivation ; there are now 304 acres. The increase is principally in the parishes of St. Andrew, where the cultivation is carried on by Jamaica owners, and in the parishes of St. Catherine, St. Thomas, Portland, and St. Mary, where it is carried on mostly by Cubans, who have settled and become the owners of property. Both Cuban and native labour is employed in the cultivation ; but Cuban labour alone is employed in the manufacture. As yet the tobacco grown in the Island is for the most part made up into cigars and snuff for Island consumption. But the reports made of cigars sent by way of experiment to the London

JAMAICA.

market are very satisfactory. I have not the least doubt that tobacco will very soon be a great staple of export, and that the quality will be very good. There is nothing to prevent Jamaica cigars equalling those exported from Havannah.

In the month of March, 1870, a prize of 250*l.* was offered for the best tobacco to be produced in Jamaica by any one cultivator of not less than 8 acres, producing 400 lbs. of cured tobacco from each acre. This prize was equally divided between two competitors in 1872. These were the first producers in Jamaica of tobacco as an exportable article.

The value of the fruit exported this last year has more than doubled that of the year before, having been 5,855*l.* as against 2,736*l.* At this rate of increase a few years will raise this infant trade into importance.

Of the minor articles of exportable produce beginning to come into notice, the Collector-General, in giving a summary of the annual reports of the several collectors of parishes, thus writes: "The article "of bamboo for fibre to be used in the manufacture of paper has "quadrupled the export of the previous year, and many of the minor "productions have in the export transactions of the past year gone far "beyond those of 1870–71. The most conspicuous of these articles "are cocoa, bananas, oranges, pines, limes, lime-juice, and yams. "The article of prepared turtle is also largely on the increase in our "export transactions."

I may add that it has come to my knowledge incidentally that a noted French firm is about to establish a factory for making the extract of logwood in this Island, whereby the freight of thousands of tons of valueless woody fibre, now needlessly sent across the Atlantic, will be saved; and that an English company is establishing here a factory for making paper from bamboo on the spot. It is greatly to be hoped that both enterprises will be rewarded by success, and it is not easy to see any reason why either should fail.

Irrigation.

Considerable progress in the works of the main canal, and of the Caymanas branch has been made.

A large quantity of material for the Anicut has been prepared, and the head works have been now commenced.

I am led to hope that water will be delivered from this work at the Caymanas (which are sugar estates four or five miles below Spanish Town, lying on the side of the river opposite to the canal) before he end of this year.

Crime.

The following Table shows the numbers of the more serious offences against the person for the last tnree years:—

	1870.	1871.	1872.
Murder - - - -	10	11	10
Manslaughter - - - -	8	16	12
Shooting with intent - - -	4	6	6
Cutting and wounding - - -	62	75	96
Assault with intent - - -	4	17	18

The great increase this year in the number of cases of cutting and wounding is a matter of regret. On the whole, however, comparing the number of the most serious offences against the person with the population, which exceeds half a million, I do not think that the number of crimes of this sort can be considered to be large.

The following Table shows the number of persons arrested and summoned for offences against property during the last four years:—

1869	5,370
1870	4,380
1871	4,186
1872	4,295

There were more cases of larceny of growing provisions this year than there were last year. This is attributable to the prolonged drought, and the consequent scarcity of provisions. This crime increased to a great extent during the months when the drought was most severe.

It is very seldom, in Jamaica, that in cases of burglary violence is used to effect an entrance. This is a curious characteristic of the criminal classes here. In the vast majority of instances the thief gets into the house by a door or window which has either been carelessly fastened, or left wide open. Out of fifty-one of these offences in Kingston, only four were effected by violent entrance. It is an equally curious characteristic of the non-criminal classes here, that the knowledge of this peculiar habit of the burglars has so little effect upon storekeepers and other householders, in inducing them to take proper care of their property. The number of shops and other houses in Kingston, discovered by the constabulary, during the year, to have been left open at night, was 199. And there is probably much less of this carelessness in Kingston than in other places. In the town of Falmouth the constabulary found, during the year, no less than 50 doors and windows unfastened.

The detective branch of the constabulary has done good service in the tracing of offenders. The inspector who came from London to take charge of this department has also charge of the registration of habitual criminals under Law 16 of 1870. The initiation of this system has been attended with good results. This officer also edits a police gazette, which is published weekly, and which has been of considerable service in being the means of bringing offenders to justice, and of recovering stolen property.

The statistics of crime during this, as well as former years, show that the greatest number of convictions take place between the ages of 20 and 30; and this with regard to both sexes.

The percentage of criminals who had had any sort of education was 34·9.

Of the 2,753 persons committed to the several prisons in 1871–72, 653 had been previously in prison, being a percentage of 23·7 on the total number of committals.

General Remarks.

The Colonial Secretariat was removed from Spanish Town to

JAMAICA.

Kingston. On the 4th of April, 1872, the Legislative Council held their last meeting in Spanish Town. This was the final act of the removal of the seat of Government to Kingston, which, as by far the most important town of the Island, ought, unquestionably, to be in all respects, the capital.

The traffic returns of the railway show a small increase over last year:—

	1871.	1872.
Passengers - - - -	120,517	121,066
Horses - - - - -	646	753
Carriages - - - -	170	172
Cattle - - - - -	597	577
Sheep - - - - -	502	409
Bundles of 28 lbs. guinea grass	293,267	346,523
Bundles of 30 lbs. wood - -	270,618	282,887
Tons, merchandise - - -	12,886	14,092

The telegraph continues to work satisfactorily: 2,407 messages were received from abroad, and 2,274 were sent.

The greater portion of these messages were to and from Europe and the United States, and nearly all were of a commercial nature.

Perfect tranquillity and good order prevailed during the year, and as far as the information received by the Government justifies an opinion, in the absence of any system of registration, it may be recorded that the Colony continued to be generally healthy; that no serious epidemic prevailed; and that the number of deaths were not above the average. Small-pox, however, which of late years has broken out seriously in so many parts of the world, and which appeared in Jamaica in the year 1871, continued in the year, 1872. But the disease, though it has broken out in several places, in nearly every instance has been confined to the immediate neighbourhood of the particular locality in which it broke out. It does not appear to have been anywhere very malignant in its character, and nowhere have the number of deaths from it been very great. In anticipation of an attack of small-pox, great endeavours had been made, previous to the appearance of the disease, to extend the protection of vaccination in every part of the Island; and these have been still continued; I hope not without some success.

(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

No. 5.

No. 5.

The Officer Administering the Government to
The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Grand Turk,
July 31, 1873.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour herewith to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1872, together with my Report thereon.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) MELFORD CAMPBELL, President.

Governor Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1872.

Taxation.

There has been no change during the year 1872 in the taxation of the Colony since my Report of 1871.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The actual revenues and expenditure of the past four years will be seen from the accompanying Table.

	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1869 - - -	7,167	19	0	9,743	19	11
1870 - - - -	7,112	12	9	8,974	9	0
1871 - - -	7,760	3	8	9,236	16	3
1872 - - - -	10,864	18	1	9,722	19	6
	32,905	13	6	37,678	4	8
Average for four years	£8,226	8	4	£9,419	11	2

The difference of expenditure over revenue has been met by balance from 1868 amounting to 662*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, payments from the Crown funds in aid of the general revenue 1,728*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*, loan from public bank 700*l.*, and the sum of 2,000*l.* borrowed on debentures, leaving a balance of 318*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* at the close of the year 1872, for the service of 1873.

SALT EXPORTED.

	Bushels.	Value.		
		£	s.	d.
1872 - - - -	1,831,010	26,750	8	11
1871 - - - -	1,283,264	18,667	9	0
Increase for 1872 -	547,746	£8,082	19	11

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

I should remark that there is a considerable difference in the declared value of the salt here, and the actual value of salt in the United States.

The price realized in the States during the last few years, in many instances, being considerably below the value here, and many persons who have shipped salt on their own account have been heavy losers.

VALUE OF IMPORTS.

	Value. £	s.	d.
1872 - - - - - -	31,881	18	3
1871 - - - - - - -	25,285	1	9
Increase for 1872 - -	£6,596	16	6

Debt of the Colony.

At the commencement of the year 1872 the debt of the Colony amounted to 2,700*l.*, but during that year 700*l.* was paid off, thus reducing the debt to 2,000*l.*, at which amount it now remains; the interest paid for which is at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum.

Legislation.

The following is a list of the Ordinances passed by the Council during 1872, all of which were assented to except Ordinance No. 4, which required amendment:—

Ordinance No. 1 *of* 1872.

"To amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1861, and to repeal Ordinance No. 3 of 1871, with reference to fees to be paid by British ships of war for pilotage within the waters and harbours of the Turks and Caicos Islands."

Ordinance No. 2 *of* 1872.

"To authorize the President of the Turks and Caicos Islands to grant lands for religious purposes."

Ordinance No. 3 *of* 1872.

"To authorize the Commissioners of the Poors' House and Hospital, under certain circumstances, to take possession and to dispose of the real and personal property of any person who may receive relief in such establishment."

Ordinance No. 4 *of* 1872.

"To disendow the Church of England in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and for other ecclesiastical purposes."

Ordinance No. 5 *of* 1872.

"To authorize the negociating of a loan for the public service of the Turks and Caicos Islands."

Ordinance No. 6 *of* 1872.

"To repeal Ordinance No. 1 of 1867, entitled an 'Ordinance to 'repeal Ordinance No. 4 of 1853, and to make other provisions for 'the government of the Turks and Caicos Islands;' and Ordinance No. 6 of 1868, to amend Ordinance No. 1 of 1867, and for other purposes."

Ordinance No. 7 *of* 1872.

"To provide for the appropriation of divers sums of money to be paid from the Colonial Treasury for and towards defraying the contingent expense of the Presidency of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1873."

Crown Fund.

The amount of Crown Fund actually collected during the year 1872 was 2,709*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*, from which was expended the sum of 790*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.* in public works, salaries, rent of buildings, and miscellaneous services. A sum also of 875*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* was advanced in aid of the general revenue, leaving a balance of 1,043*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*, to which amount may be added balance remaining at the end of the year 1871, amounting to 562*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, making a sum total of 1,606*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, which amount was carried to the service of the year 1873.

Education.

By Ordinance No. 6 of 1872 the public schools of this Colony were abolished, and other provisions for educational purpose made. Formerly a sum amounting to 700*l.* per annum was expended for education, but by the Ordinance above mentioned 200*l.* yearly is the sum at present allowed, with a proviso that it may be increased to 400*l.* yearly when the finances of the Colony permit, and his Excellency the Governor in Chief approves of such additional outlay.

I cannot report favourably as regards education in the Colony since the changes above mentioned have been made, as the judicious expenditure of the small sum of 200*l.* per annum is a difficult matter to arrange, considering that no less than six schools are absolutely necessary in this group of islands.

Crime.

During the year 1872 there were 243 convictions in the Police Courts of the Colony, against 197 for 1871, 227 for 1870, and 243 for 1869.

For the Supreme Court the convictions were 11 for 1872, 6 for 1871, 7 for 1870, and 5 for 1869.

Gaols.

The discipline of the gaol at Grand Turk is efficiently carried out.

The expense of the gaol during 1872, including the officers' salaries and food supplies for the prisoners, was 531*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* The diet of the prisoners is ample, and varied as far as can be in this Colony.

In consequence of some severe cases of scurvy appearing amongst

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

the prisoners, I found it necessary to vary their diet; this has been attended with the most beneficial results. The daily cost of a prisoner's rations averages $10\frac{3}{4}d.$

Poors' Asylum and Infirmary.

The number of inmates in the asylum on the 1st of January, 1872, was 15, during which year 15 other persons were admitted; 12 deaths took place in the infirmary during 1872.

The yearly cost of these institutions combined was 467*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*, including the salaries of the medical officer and staff. The cost of each inmate is about 1*s.* $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ per diem. The sum of 24*l.* was expended in out-door relief, which brings up the expenditure for charitable institutions in the Colony to 491*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* during the year 1872.

Pensions.

The total amount for pensions chargeable on the revenues of this Colony was at the rate of 634*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* for the year 1872. One pension, however, amounting to 150*l.* per annum, has fallen in on account of the death of the holder, but an additional pension of 100*l.* per annum having lately been granted to the Rev. J. Astwood, late rector of St. John's parish at Salt Cay, causes the Pension List for the present to remain at much the same amount as mentioned in the commencement of this paragraph.

Population.

The population of these Islands by the census of 1871 amounted to 4,723 persons, of whom 572 are whites.

The proportion of males to females being 2,274 of the former, to 2,449 of the latter.

From the census returns of 1871 it appears that 2,832 persons have been vaccinated, leaving 1,891 unvaccinated; since which period general vaccination has been authorized throughout the Colony, with what results the annexed Report of Dr. Bascome, the Government Medical Officer, shows.

Ecclesiastical.

By an Ordinance passed during the present year (1873) the Church of England in this Colony has been disendowed and disestablished. This Ordinance, however, has not yet received the Royal Assent, though by an Ordinance now in operation all expenditure from colonial funds for ecclesiastical purposes is abolished, the members of each religious denomination having for the future to support their own minister.

From the last census it would appear that the population of the Colony may be classed as follows:—

Baptists	1,805
Wesleyans	1,510
Church of England	949
Roman Catholics	38
Presbyterians	28

Lutherans	1
Dutch reformed	1
No religious denomination	391
Total	4,723

I may state that amongst those numbered under the head of "No "religious denomination," are to be found a few Mahometans; this fact has only lately come under my notice from conversations I have had with some of the labouring class, whose type struck me as showing unmistakable signs of Arab and Negro blood commixed, though even amongst the pure Negro here I find Mahometans who profess to belong to the Baptist denomination.

From inquiries I find that most of these people were wrecked in their youth on some of the Caicos reefs while being conveyed in slavers from the African coast to Cuba.

General Remarks.

The general condition of these Islands has changed but little since my last Report. His Excellency Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B., arrived at Grand Turk from Jamaica in the month of January of the year on which I now report, and repeated his visit at the commencement of the present year (1873), with a view to examine into the condition of the Colony, and initiate such measures whereby taxation might be diminished and the expenditure reduced.

His Excellency proposed certain changes in the form of the Government, a reduction of the official staff, and placing these Islands more completely under the control of Jamaica.

These measures were imperative, as it was impossible for the Colony to continue supporting a large official establishment, when its sole staple no longer commanded a remunerative price. It was anticipated that the abolition of the export duty on our staple would immediately lead to a revival of the trade. Up to the present time (July, 1873) such anticipation has not been realized, nor do I feel hopeful that these Islands will ever return to their former prosperity.

The salt ponds are divided out into too many interests, and many of the owners completely impoverished, consequently there is great competition in the sale of salt, proprietors striving to undersell each other. These evils will continue until the ponds fall into fewer hands, when, with less competition and the application of mechanical contrivances, salt cultivation may be made more remunerative than at present.

As regards the condition of the out-islands, I believe that had I not given permission at the end of the year 1871 to the salt pond labourers at Cockburn Harbour to cultivate the waste lands belonging to the Crown, the greater part of the population at that locality would have perished from starvation, as they had no means of leaving the Colony and earning a subsistence elsewhere.

In consequence of fewer wrecks occurring of late on the reefs surrounding these Islands, the inhabitants are turning their attention more to raising corn, fruit, and vegetables, than they hitherto have done. There is certainly every necessity for greater supervision over

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

these poor people than at present exists. At some of the settlements they seem almost degenerating back to savagedom, having no one resident amongst them capable of leading or controlling them.

When the finances of the Colony are in a better condition than at present, measures will doubtless be taken to remedy the existing state of things.

MELFORT CAMBPELL, President.

SIR, Grand Turk, August 6, 1873.

I beg leave to state, for the information of his Honour the President, that the percentage of successful vaccinations in this Colony for the year 1872, as shown by the returns in the Colonial Secretary's Office, was 87·16 per cent.

I would further remark that small-pox has repeatedly been introduced into this Colony, but has always been confined to the houses in which it made its appearance, although those houses have been situated in the most thickly populated parts of the town.

I am not prepared to say that this seeming immunity from contagion is owing to the air being loaded with saline matter, but I have no doubt that it chiefly arises from the thorough ventilation induced by the strong breezes that prevail for the greater portion of the year.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) D. B. BASCOME, M.D.

A. C. Lowe, Esq., Colonial Secretary.

Return showing the NUMBER of BIRTHS and DEATHS registered at the TURKS and CAICOS ISLANDS during the years 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, and 1872, showing also the BIRTH RATE and DEATH RATE in each of these years, as also the Average of these Rates for the said Five Years.

Population as per Census of 1871.	BIRTHS.			DEATHS.		
	Year.	No. of Births Registered.	Birth Rate.	Year.	No. of Deaths Registered.	DeathRate.
			per 1000.			per 1000.
	1868	222	47	1868	66	13·9
	1869	200	42·3	1869	82	17·3
4723	1870	206	43·8	1870	108	22·8
	1871	197	41·9	1871	125	26·4
	1872	170	35·9	1872	95	20·1
	—	995 (*a*)	210·3	—	476 (*b*)	100·5
Average for 5 years	—	199	42	—	95	20·1

(*a*) Including 13 still births, registered as births only during the said five years, viz. 1 in 1868, 1 in 1870, 5 in 1871, and 6 in 1872.

(*b*) Including 10 still births, registered as deaths only during the above period, viz. 2 in 1869, 1 in 1870, 3 in 1871, and 4 in 1872.

(Signed) ALEX. C. LOWE,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Grand Turk, April 23rd, 1873.

BAHAMAS.

No. 6.

The ADMINISTRATOR of the BAHAMAS to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Government House, Nassau, April 24, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of the Bahamas for the year 1872, and my Report thereon.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) GEO. C. STRAHAN, Administrator.

REPORT ON BAHAMAS BLUE BOOK FOR 1872.

Finance.

No change has taken place in the general taxation of the Colony since 1870.

The additional duty levied under an Act passed in 1869 of 25 per cent. upon the total amount of duties collected, and the tax upon the salaries of public officers and pensions imposed in 1870, have both been continued for a further period of three years by an Act passed in the beginning of the present year.

The revenue and expenditure for the last four years have been as follows:—

Date.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1869	35,360	40,376
1870	47,530	48,598
1871	41,826	40,662
1872	37,574	38,836

To account for the decrease of the revenue of the past year as compared with that of 1871, the acting Receiver General reports that "the importations in the latter part of 1871 were so large that "the market became overstocked in the early part of 1872, which "caused a falling-off in the importations during the year."

The pension list has been decreased by 242*l.* 13*s.* in consequence of the death of three retired public officers.

The public debt of the Colony amounts to 54,161*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*, being the same as in 1869.

Of this amount, the Colony is pledged to redeem 10,920*l.* by the 1st May next, while debentures issued under what is commonly called the Hurricane Loan Act to the amount of 15,000*l.* are redeemable in 1877.

Post Office.

A serious interruption in the mail service of the Colony took place in consequence of the loss at sea of the mail steamer 'Missouri' in

October last, and the subsequent failure of the Atlantic Mail Steam Ship Company, with whom this Government had a contract for the conveyance of the Bahamas' mails, which would not have expired until the end of 1876.

The service has lately been carried on under a temporary arrangement with a New York firm, which will continue until November next, by which time it is hoped that a contract will be entered into for a regular and efficient mail service.

Trade and Commerce.

The value of the imports and exports for the last four years has been:—

Date.	Imports.	Exports.	
		Native Produce.	Other Exports.
	£	£	£
1869	240,584	77,999	85,003
1870	283,970	60,231	130,022
1871	239,190	82,677	69,733
1872	201,051	89,615	46,609

The increase under the head of native produce is to be attributed to the recent establishment at Nassau of a manufactory for the preserving of pine-apples, of which 500,000 tins were exported during the past year.

The falling-off in other exports may be accounted for from the decrease in the number of marine casualties, which in times past threw into the ports of the Colony a large amount of valuable property, of which a great part was frequently exported.

During the past year there has been a general depression in the trade of the Colony, which is to be attributed to causes of a local, and I trust, temporary nature, more especially perhaps to the unsuccessful shipments of pine-apples, the chief export of the Colony, to England and the United States, and to the interruption in communication with New York above referred to.

The receipts and payments of the Nassau Public Bank have been as follows:—

Date.	Receipts.	Payments.
	£	£
1869	420,786	410,734
1870	514,381	507,242
1871	470,476	480,080
1872	419,469	423,184

Legislation.

The principal Act passed during the Session of 1872 was 35 Viet. c. 1, "An Act to continue the Act 32 Victoria, chapter 29, for "raising a further revenue for the support of Her Majesty's Govern- "ment within the Bahama Islands."

Education.

There are in the Bahamas 35 Government schools, viz. five in New Providence and 30 in the out islands.

These schools are under the direction and management of the Board of Education, which is composed of the Governor as President and of five or more members of the Legislature.

The Legislative grant for educational purposes is 2,200*l.* per annum.

This does not include the salary of the Inspector of Schools, who is borne upon the Civil Establishment of the Colony on a salary of 200*l.*

The number of children on the books of the Government schools is 3,006, while there are 1,200 who attend schools in connection with the Church of England.

It is calculated that 55 per cent. of the children between 5 and 15 years of age attend these schools.

This number is exclusive of those attending private schools, and those of other denominations.

The chief obstacles in the way of an extended system of education are,—

(1.) The isolated and widely scattered nature of the settlements.

(2.) The low salaries of the school teachers. Suitable men can obtain more pay as clerks or mechanics.

(3.) The indifference of the parents as regards the education of their children.

In regard to the discipline, instruction and general efficiency, the Inspector reports that the "results obtained by individual examina- "tion compare favourably with those of last year, and, regarded as a "whole, with those of any former year."

Ecclesiastical.

The following figures may be taken as representing the number of persons generally attending the churches and chapels of the several denominations:—

Wesleyan - - - - -	7,370
Baptist - - - -	7,971
Church of England - - -	4,250
Presbyterian - - - -	300

Population and Health.

The census returns of 1871 show a population of 39,162.

The births and deaths in the last four years were as follows:—

Date.	Births.	Deaths.
1869	1,469	706
1870	1,483	775
1871	1,433	805
1872	1,475	704

BAHAMAS.

During the past year the public health was remarkably good, and the death-rate, 17·9 in 1000, will certainly compare favourably with that of the other Colonies.

Agriculture and Land.

Crown land in this Colony is sold by auction at an upset price of 10*s.* per acre, one-fourth of the purchase money being paid at the time of sale, three months' credit on approved security being given for payment of the remainder.

Town lots of one-quarter of an acre are sold at an upset price of $\$8\frac{1}{2}$ (1*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*) for cash.

The pine-apple is the principal product of the Bahamas, for the growth of which the soil of the Islands of San Salvador, Eleuthera and Abaco is well suited.

The manufacture of salt is carried on to a considerable extent in the Islands of Inagua, Rum Cay, Long Cay and Ragged Island.

Crime and Pauperism.

The number of prisoners tried in the Superior Court during the last three years was as follows:—

	1870.	1871.	1872.
Convicted - - -	33	38	40
Acquitted - - -	24	21	6

The number of convictions before the police magistrate at Nassau during the same period was:—

1870.	1871.	1872.
881	833	750

Although offences, including those against the Police Act—common assaults and larceny, have decreased, I regret to state that prædial larceny has considerably increased.

The distance in most cases of the fields from the dwelling-houses, the absence of a rural police-force, and the disinclination of the negro to inform against his neighbour, all tend to give facilities to this class of offender.

I am, however, hopeful that the introduction toward the end of last year of strictly penal labour, in the shape of shot drill as a part of the prison discipline, will not be without good results as a deterrent against offences of this nature, and against crime generally.

The daily average number of prisoners at the Nassau prison during the year 1872 was 89, as compared with 92 in 1871.

The average number during the last four months has been 71·89.

The only charitable institution in the Colony is the New Providence Asylum, which consists of a hospital, a poor-house, a leper establishment and a lunatic asylum.

It is conducted under the control and management of a Board of Commissioners, nominated by the Governor.

Outdoor relief to the poor is also given to a limited extent.

The amounts expended in the maintenance of the New Providence Asylum, and in relief of the poor throughout the Colony, in the last two years, are as follows:—

1871.	1872.
£	£
2,286	2,274

Military.

The garrison at present consists of 8 regimental and 4 departmental officers, and 153 non-commissioned officers and men of the 1st West India Regiment.

A vessel of war has been constantly on this station since 1869, with the exception of a few months in 1870.

General.

Although the expenditure during the past year has been less than that of any former year since 1860, having in the last 5 years been reduced from 68,306*l.* to 38,836*l.*, I regret to state that the present revenue is not sufficient to meet the ordinary expenditure, and that the general condition of the Colony cannot therefore be considered as satisfactory.

Under this head I will quote from my speech on meeting the Legislature in January last, when in addressing the House of Assembly I stated,—

"It must be borne in mind that, if year after year provision is only made for the bare exigencies of the public service, much which would tend to the progress and development of the Colony must remain unaccomplished.

"A more extended system of education, an improvement in the sanitary condition of this town and its suburbs, the development of the resources of the out islands, the improvement of the harbour of Nassau, and the establishment of telegraphic communication, are all of them questions which materially affect the interests of the Colony, but the consideration of which in the present state of the revenue must, I fear, be indefinitely postponed."

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GEO. C. STRAHAN,
Administrator.

BARBADOS.

No. 7.

No. 7.

Governor RAWSON to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Windward Islands, Barbados,
29th September, 1873.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, in duplicate, the Blue Book for this Island for the year 1872, together with my Report thereon. The former has only this day been delivered in a complete form by the printers.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RAWSON W. RAWSON,
Governor.

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT.

The first half of the year 1872 was a period of anxiety and disappointment to the planters, and the latter half was one of growing despondency as to the crop of the following year. The drought, which commenced in November, 1870, and which had not interfered with the crop of 1871, lasted through the whole of the latter year, and reduced the crop from 53,907 hogsheads in 1871 to 39,167 hogsheads in 1872, being about 100 hogsheads less than in 1870, the smallest crop since 1864. The hopes, therefore, which were raised by the abundant crop of 1871 were not only frustrated, but as the drought continued month after month in 1872 until the month of September, drying up the rattoons, and preventing fresh planting for future crops, evil forebodings became general as to the crop of 1873, and fears began to be entertained as to the consequences of four bad crops in five years.

2. The difficulties of the planters re-acted upon the merchants and upon the community generally. A deficiency of more than a fourth in the quantity, and perhaps of a third in the selling value of the produce of the Island, say of 350,000*l.* during the current year, was no light trial, but the almost certain prospect of an equal or greater deficiency in the coming year was a reasonable ground for alarm. It is no small evidence of the firmness and elasticity of the planting interest, and of its supporters in England, that up to the present time the former have stood their ground, and are now hopeful of partially recouping themselves in 1874, the prospects of which are very favourable.

3. For the drought broke up in September, after a duration of twenty-two months. And although October was unusually dry, the rainfall of the three months, November to January, was sufficiently plentiful to bring forward the canes in those parts of the Island where they were not almost wholly destroyed, and did, in fact, secure an average crop on a few estates, or in limited areas. The year, however, may be described as one of difficulty and trial.

4. The health of the Island was good. The precautions taken

against the introduction of small-pox from Trinidad were effectual. 25,100 persons were vaccinated in 1871–2, and quarantine was maintained against that Island up to the 11th of November.

A violent squall or succession of squalls from the southward swept over the Island, and the several islands to the northward, on the 8th and 9th September, which drove five vessels ashore in Carlisle Bay, caused much greater mischief to shipping in Martinique and Dominica, and deposited an average of nearly six inches of rain over the whole of this Island. The storm which produced these effects was a singular one; it did not acquire a rotatory motion until after it had passed the Leeward Islands, whence it took a north-westerly direction.

5. Although the sugar crop was so small, causing a reduction in the employment of the labouring classes, and although these suffered, not only from the loss of their own small patches of cane, but from the influence of the drought upon their own and the planters' crops of roots and grains, the distress which prevailed among these classes found a relief to some extent in emigration, especially from those districts which the drought had most affected, and did not lead to any serious social or physical evils. It probably contributed to the slightly increased mortality, which will be hereafter noticed, but the cases of death from destitution which came to light were not more frequent than usual, and it did not cause any increase of crime.

6. One occurrence that took place in the month of October calls for notice here. The steamer, 'Cuban,' one of the vessels of the West Indian and Pacific Steam Packet Company, which visits Barbados monthly, broke down within sight of Carlisle Bay, and was run ashore close to the town. She filled immediately. Her cargo, which was very large and of great value, the invoices amounting to 180,000*l*., was raised by divers and landed. Some of the packages were broken in lifting or transporting them. As these were landed on the wharf, they offered a temptation to the crowds of curious idlers collected there, who began to pilfer from the heaps, or from the trucks on their way to the warehouse. This led to struggles between the mob and the police. The former, too, conceived an imaginary grievance.

7. The damaged goods were brought to sale by auction; much of it in whole packages, of which the marks and destination had been obliterated by their immersion in salt water. Their contents were unknown. Some persons acquired unexpected prizes—such as jewellery concealed in bales of cheap goods—evidently intended to be smuggled into the South American ports, for which they were destined. Many, of course, outbidding others blindly, drew blanks instead of prizes. There was great excitement among the traders and retail dealers, which extended itself to the lower classes. The sale was held in a confined shed, which could contain but a small number of persons. The police were therefore directed to exclude the mob, and to allow admission only to persons of a class likely to purchase. This angered the mob. A feeling existed among the lower classes that this wreck was a gift from Providence to them. "J . . . . "C . . . . . had sent it to them," and the consignees and police had no right to prevent them from profiting by it. Large crowds

collected. Numbers came in from the country districts; among them habitual wreckers from St. Philip. And in the afternoon of the 28th October the mob attacked the police station, injured many constables; and, as darkness came on, began to break the windows, and try to force the doors of stores and shops in the main street. In this crisis of affairs it became necessary to call out a military force, which prevented further mischief, and soon after midnight the mob dispersed.

8. Next day a repetition of these scenes was threatened, but the precautions taken, and the dread of a company of soldiers posted for the night close at hand, to meet the contingency of the extra force employed by the civil power proving insufficient, effectually prevented it, and quiet was restored. For a long time after goods of all descriptions, especially piece goods, were hawked all over the Island in abundance; and the accident caused a serious interference with the regular trade, both wholesale and retail, of Bridgetown. The duties paid upon the goods landed from this wreck amounted to about 1,900*l.*, but the revenue did not gain to this, or probably any considerable extent; and it may be doubted whether the Treasury really benefited by the disaster to this vessel. In almost every other respect that event was injurious to the community.

1. *Taxes, &c.*

9. No change was made in the Customs' Tariff this year, but on the 1st of January two Acts, passed in the previous December, came into operation; one establishing an improved system of collecting the duty upon rum, under which a duty was laid upon all stills; of 25*l.* on all stills between 6 and 100 gallons, and of 1*s.* additional for each gallon in excess of the latter capacity; and the other amending the laws for regulating the sale of liquors by retail, and requiring a separate licence of 5*l.* a year to be taken out for the retail sale of wine. In the commencement of the year an Act was passed, with the object of diminishing the prevalence of hydrophobia, which required all persons keeping one or more dogs to take out an annual licence, and pay 5*s.* for each.

2. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

10. The revenue of the year showed a smaller decrease than might have been anticipated from the large deficiency in the crop, and it affords evidence of the annual average having been raised to the extent of about 14,000*l.* a year, or 14 per cent. above the average of the three years, 1868–70. The amount was

	£
In 1871 - - - -	119,492
„ 1872 - - - -	117,652

11. The difference in the Customs and Tonnage Dues, which may be taken as the measure of the loss occasioned by the short crop, amounted to 1,788*l.* Against this was a set-off of an increase in the duties on stills and rum, amounting to 1,018*l.*, after deducting a diminution in the duty on liquor licences, which, however, is described, as only "apparent," having been caused by a change in the time of issuing licences. The other items on which there was a decrease of

any consequence were, Militia Tax 951*l.*, and Miscellaneous 875*l.* The former arose from a temporary excess in 1871, caused by a greater activity in collecting the arrears. The latter was casual. On the whole the results of the revenue of the year may be taken as satisfactory.

12. The Superannuation Fund yielded a revenue of 971*l.*, being an increase of 285*l.* over the preceding year. The charges against this fund were 175*l.* in 1871, and 195*l.* in 1872. They have not yet begun to accrue.

13. The Expenditure of 1872, after deducting the payments out of the Public Buildings Fund, exceeded that of 1871 by 1,580*l.*, viz.:—

	£
In 1871	112,284
„ 1872	113,864

14. This excess is more than accounted for by the difference in the expenditure on roads and public works, as is shown in the following comparison:—

	1871.	1872.
	£	£
Molehead Board	4,099	6,134
Public works	4,260	9,598
Roads—town and country	11,837	7,289
	£20,196	£23,021

15. The other differences consist of an increase under the following heads:—

	£
Internal Revenues Office	1,086
Police	624
Hospitals	872
Ecclesiastical	3,527
Educational	737
Drawbacks and Refunds	758

The first increase was more than balanced by the duty on stills. The charge under the head of "Ecclesiastical" arose from a large payment of salary granted by the Act constituting a new Bishopric for the Island, and that under the head of "Educational" by additional grants to middle class schools. The only decrease worthy of notice is that of 1,104*l.* on account of Vaccination.

16. Deducting the amount of extraordinary expenditure from the gross amount, the ordinary expenditure was:—

	£
In 1871	91,625
„ 1872	89,985

17. The Treasurer's balance at the close of the year was 3,093*l.*, having been reduced from 10,480*l* 11*s.* 9*d.* at the beginning of the

year. The balance to the credit of the Public Buildings Fund at the close of the year was 13,424*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*

3. *Local Revenues.*

18. The parochial revenue and expenditure continue to increase, but considering the character of the year the expenditure upon the poor was not greatly augmented. The total revenue and expenditure, exclusive of balances, in each of the last three years ending 31st March, were:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
In 1870	20,656	21,339
„ 1871	22,265	22,212
„ 1872	23,217	22,551

19. The expenditure upon the poor in the same years was:—

	£
In 1870	7,141
„ 1871	7,658
„ 1872	8,467

20. There was an increase for educational purposes from an average of 1,450*l.* a year to 1,789*l.*; and upon the maintenance of the churches and chapels from 2,500*l.* a year to 2,782*l.*

21. The revenue from the tax recently imposed upon dogs is not stated in all the returns. As far as appears from them there was received in

	£	s.	d.
St. Michael	nil		
Christ Church	nil		
St. Philip	nil		
St. George	84	10	0
St. John	66	10	0
St. Thomas (nett)	56	19	2
St. Joseph	47	5	0
St. Andrew	29	6	0
St. Lucy	34	10	0
St. Peter	38	5	0
St. James	56	15	0
Total	£414	0	2

22. There was an increase in the revenue raised by the Road Commissioners upon either of the preceding years. It was:—

	£
In 1870	7,001
„ 1871	6,794
„ 1872	7,223

23. There was a corresponding increase in the number of animals and carriages subject to taxation, viz.:—

	1870.	1871.	1872.
Horses	£1,909	£1,915	£1,943
Mules	3,287	3,562	3,662
Asses	804	861	948
Wheels of burthen	7,666	7,918	8,115
„ of pleasure	3,948	4,038	4,288

24. The total parochial taxation amounted to 30,440*l.*, being an increase of 1,381*l.* upon the preceding year, and amounting to 26 per cent. of the corresponding gross revenue of the Colony.

25. The assessments of Bridgetown and St. Michaels do not exhibit traces of much advance in the value of property, or in the incomes derived from trade, unless it be contended that they are made out in a manner which deprives them of value as tests of what they profess to represent. A comparison spread over twenty years appears to be sufficient to show this :—

	1851.			1861.			1866.			1871.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Amount of City Rents taxed	48,627	0	0	44,981	0	0	53,212	0	0	51,696	0	0
Amount of Rural Rents taxed	11,729	0	0	13,797	0	0	15,187	0	0	13,591	0	0
Amount of rate of Tax on above per £	0	0	8	0	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	11
Amount of City Occupancy taxed	..			19,870	0	0	22,058	0	0	21,199	0	0
Amount of Rural Occupancy taxed	..			4,207	0	0	5,689	0	0	5,069	0	0
Amount of Rate of Tax on above, per £	..			0	0	10	0	0	7	0	0	11
Produce of Trade Tax	1,605	0	0	1,880	0	0	2,010	0	0	2,257	0	0
Acres of Land taxed	7,688	0	0	7,600	0	0	7,600	0	0	7,820	0	0
Rate per acre	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	3	3	0	3	9

26. As the increase in the parochial revenue almost balances the decrease in the general revenue, the gross amount of total taxation, supposing the population to have remained stationary, emigration having balanced the increase by births, remains the same as in last year, 1*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* per acre of the area, and 18*s.* 4½*d.* per head of the population.

4. *Public Debt.*

27. No general debt.

5. *Military Expenditure.*

28. There has been a large decrease in the expenditure of Her Majesty's Government on account of the troops, extending over all the heads excepting military education, which was blank in the year 1871 :—

	£
In 1869	90,887
„ 1870	77,258
„ 1871	81,136
„ 1872	54,658

6. *Militia.*

29. The force has ceased to exist since the 11th of January, 1869. The Act of 23rd May, 1866, entitled "An Act to raise and organize "a Militia Force in this Island," was repealed by Act No. 1, of the 24th December, 1868, which, however, did not repeal the Act of the 13th August, 1839, entitled "An Act to consolidate and amend the "several Acts relating to the Militia of this Island, and to provide "for the better organization of the same."

7. *Public Works.*

30. The expenditure under this head consisted in 1872 of—

	£	£
1. Works carried on by the Molehead Board, consisting of		
1. Expenses of dredging	1,197	
2. Purchase of steam-tug	1,295	
3. Ditto of two hopper punts	868	
4. Repairs to Molehead works	1,582	
5. Other payments	1,192	
		6,134
2. Public Works, consisting of		
1. Completing bridge	2,325	
2. Wharf walls of inner basin	4,922	
3. Miscellaneous in careenage	218	
4. Purchase of site of lunatic asylum	1,173	
5. On account of erection of petroleum warehouse	960	
		9,598
3. Roads. Grants to		
Commissioners	6,300	
Commissioners of city roads	489	
Commissioners of leeward new road	500	
		7,289
Total chargeable against General Revenue		23,021
Ditto ditto against Public Buildings Fund		10,919
Total		£33,940

31. The west wing of the public buildings was opened and occupied on the 24th of January, 1872. The repairs to the Molehead were completed, at a total cost of 3,778*l.* The new bridge was opened on the 21st April. 5,332*l.* had been expended on the inner basin up to 31st December.

8. *Legislative.*

32. The principal Acts passed by the Legislature during the year were:

OF SESSION 1871-72.

No. 35. For amending the Act for licensing the keeping of dogs.

OF SESSION 1872-73.

No. 1. For providing for the erection and maintenance of a lighthouse on the east coast of the Island.

No. 2. For providing for the appointment of a Bishop to exercise supervision over the Clergy of the Anglican Church in the Island; and to remunerate Bishop Parry for his services whilst in charge of the Diocese of Barbados.

No. 6. For continuing the charge of 20 per cent. upon all duties of customs, from the point at which they shall reach the sum of 40,000*l.*, authorized by the several Acts relating to Public Buildings, and to apply the same for the public service.

No. 7. For making provision relating to the conveyance and transfer of real and personal property vested in mortgagees and trustees.

No. 8. For continuing in force, temporarily, the Act appointing the Superintendent of Public Works.

No. 9. For providing a further grant for educational purposes.

No. 10. For fixing and limiting the time of proscription in certain cases.

No. 11. For providing for the better care and protection of lunatics.

No. 12. For consolidating and amending the laws for the prevention of petty thefts.

No. 13. For consolidating and amending the laws relating to prison discipline.

No. 14. For amending and continuing the Act regulating the import and export trade of the Island.

33. Some of the above Acts merit special notice.

No. 35. The object of this was to discourage the keeping of dogs, with the view of diminishing the prevalence of hydrophobia.

No. 1. Her Majesty's Government have agreed to provide the lighting apparatus for this lighthouse, at a cost of about half the original estimate of the whole work, viz., 2,300*l.*

No. 2. Upon the decease of the late Bishop of Barbados, Her Majesty's Government declined to recommend the Queen to appoint a successor, and the salary of the office lapsed with Bishop Parry. The Island of Trinidad also withdrew from the Diocese of Barbados. Upon this it became necessary for each of the remaining islands within the diocese to provide separately for the supervision of its Clergy of the Anglican Church. This Act provides for the appointment and payment of a Bishop for Barbados, without interfering with the organization of the Church of England within the Island. It provides, further, for the temporary absence of the Bishop, if any other of the islands within the late diocese should decide upon constituting him their Bishop. The Act granted a salary to the late Coadjutor Bishop for his services from the time of the decease of the late Bishop until the arrival of his successor.

No. 6. Under this Act the additional duty of 20 per cent. upon all duties of customs, originally imposed to provide a fund of 40,000*l.* for the erection of public buildings, has been continued indefinitely for the increase of the general revenue.

9. *Political Franchise; Councils and Assembly.*

34. No change took place in the composition of the Councils, but one of its members, Sir Thomas Graham Briggs, Bart., was nomi-

nated a member of the General Government of the Leeward Islands, and therefore tendered the resignation of his seats in the Councils of Barbados, which, however, was not accepted. At the annual election of the House of Assembly, which took place on the 19th February, two new members were elected, in the place of members retiring,—and the rest were re-elected without a contest.

10. *Population.*

35. The principal results of the census of 1871 were given in last year's report. As no general system of registration of births and deaths exists in the Island, and no record of the changes by emigration and immigration, no further information can be furnished regarding the population, excepting the estimate reported from British Guiana, that upwards of 5000 persons had emigrated thither from Barbados during the year 1872. A measure has since been passed to provide for the registration of emigrants, and a Registration Bill is again before the House of Assembly.

11. *Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials.*

36. The abstracts of the above exhibit phenomena which are consistent with an extensive emigration, chiefly of adults, during the year. There is a decrease in the number of baptisms and marriages, and while there is a numerical increase in the burials, the proportionate increase is greatest at the two ends of the scale, among children and old persons.

37. The total numbers for each of the last 3 years, taken from the Registrar's abstract, were:—

BAPTISMS.

In 1870	6,667
„ 1871	7,095
„ 1872	6,683

MARRIAGES.

In 1870	620
„ 1871	757
„ 1872	656

BURIALS.

In 1870	3,445
„ 1871	3,858
„ 1872	4,330

38. The baptisms, which had increased last year by 428, or 6·4 per cent., decreased this year by 472, or 5·8 per cent. The decrease was very unequal in the several parishes. Last year there was a general increase, except in St. Michaels and St. Josephs.

Parishes.	1870.	1871.	1872.	In 1872.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
St. Michael - - - -	1,822	1,794	1,643	—	151
Christ Church - - -	794	865	855	—	10
St. Philip - - - -	707	737	781	44	—
St. George - - - -	597	656	588	—	68
St. John - - - -	479	535	464	—	71
St. Thomas - - -	356	397	328	—	69
St. Joseph - - - -	389	388	405	17	—
St. Andrew - - -	344	412	362	—	50
St. Lucy - - - -	379	417	403	—	14
St. Peter - - - -	417	489	467	—	22
St. James - - - -	382	405	387	—	18
Total - - -	6,667	7,095	6,683		412

It is singular that the decrease should have been proportionately greater in St. John and St. Thomas, from which parishes there is reason to believe there has been little emigration.

39. It is worthy of remark that the proportion of baptisms of persons born in years preceding the current one is diminishing. This may arise either from a decrease in the number of adult baptisms, or from an increasing promptitude in bringing infants to be baptized.

Baptism of Persons.	1870.	1871.	1872.
In current year.	70·6	73·3	73·9
„ preceding year.	25·9	23·5	23·3
„ other years.	3·5	3·2	2·8
Total	100·	100·	100·

40. Last year there was an increase of marriages amounting to 22 per cent. This year there is a decrease of 13 per cent., the number only slightly exceeding that of 1870. The decrease is spread over all the parishes except St. Michaels, where the number was the same.

41. The number of burials, which last year had increased 10·6 per cent. over the preceding year, increased 12·2 per cent., viz.: from 3,858 to 4,330 in 1872. This increase was spread chiefly over children under 5 years of age, and persons between 80 and 90:

	Number.			Percentage.		
	1870.	1871.	1872.	1870.	1871.	1872.
Under 1 year - - - -	1,120	1,361	1,511	32·1	35·3	34·9
From 1 to 5 years - -	718	754	932	20·6	19·5	21·5
„ 5 „ 10 „ - -	112	137	159	3·3	3·6	3·7
„ 10 „ 15 „ - -	81	78	67	2·4	2·0	1·5
„ 15 „ 20 „ - -	131	104	102	3·8	2·7	2·3
„ 20 „ 30 „ - -	246	248	293	7·1	6·4	6·7
„ 30 „ 40 „ - -	162	208	203	4·6	5·4	4·7
„ 40 „ 50 „ - -	159	180	176	4·5	4·7	4·0
„ 50 „ 60 „ - -	171	147	157	4·9	3·8	3·6
„ 60 „ 70 „ - -	198	197	207	5·7	5·1	4·7
„ 70 „ 80 „ - -	183	209	231	5·2	5·4	5·3
„ 80 „ 90 „ - -	132	113	176	3·7	2·9	4·0
„ 90 „ 100 „ - -	35	61	66	1·0	1·6	1·5
Above 100 years - -	10	14	18	1·1	1·6	1·6
Not stated - - - -	28	32	34			
Still-born - - - -	Not stated	15	28			
Total - - - -	3,486	3,858	4,330	100·	100·	100·

42. The same inequality exisits as in 1871 with regard to the excess of mortality among children under 5 in the rural parishes, and among persons between 10 and 60 in the city parish:

	From Birth to 5 years.		From 10 to 60 years.	
	Town.	Country.	Town.	Country.
1870 - - -	52·4	52·9	31·3	21·0
1871 - - -	47·9	58·5	29·9	19·4
1872 - - -	52·5	58·3	31·1	22·9

43. This inequality, however, disappears, when the mortality is compared with the number of persons living at the two periods in town and country. According to the census of 1871, the relative proportions of persons living at the respective ages, taking Bridgetown and St. Michaels together, and the average of the rural parishes (excluding Speightstown, the character of which is urban, and the proportions of which follow Bridgetown), are as follows:

	Town.	Conntry.
Under 5 years - - -	14·4	19·2
From 5 to 60 - - -	81·6	76·7
Above 60 - - - -	4·0	4·1
Total -	100·	100·

44. A necessary inference from the above is that the mortality in the town is much greater than in the country. The materials do not exist for comparing the mortality of either district with the actual population, or of distinguishing that of children from those of older persons; but comparing the total mortality of the two districts with the population existing in each in 1871, the mortality in town was 33 per 1000, while that in the country was only 24 per 1000; and some notion may be formed of the comparative excess in the mortality of children in the town from the fact that while 14·4 per cent. of the population in town, under 5 years of age yielded 52·5 per cent. of the town mortality, 19·2 per cent. of the same population in the rural districts yielded only 58·3 per cent. of the country mortality. The equivalent proportion would have been 70 per cent. So also as regards the population above that age up to 60, while 81·6 per cent. of the town population yielded 31·1 per cent. of the town mortality, 76·7 per cent. of the country population yielded only 22·9 per cent. of the country mortality. The equivalent proportion would have been 29 per cent.

45. The Registrar's Returns for the present year distinguish males from females. The following results may be drawn from them. Taking all the baptisms into account there was a slight excess of females, viz.:—

Males - - - - -	3,331
Females - - - -	3,352
Total - - - - -	6,683

But as this includes some adult baptisms, a fairer estimate of the proportion of sexes born in the year may be drawn from the baptisms of those born in the year and in the year immediately preceding; for it is worthy of note that the proportions differ in the two years:—

	Born in 1871.	Born in 1872.	Aggregate.
Males	773	2,490	3,263
Females	783	2,448	3,231

Amounting in the aggregate to an excess of 1 per cent. of males.

46. Taking all the burials into account, and excluding those whose sex was not sufficiently shown in the registers, there was a slight excess of mortality among the females, viz.:—

Males	2,137
Females	2,149
Doubtful	44
Total	4,330

47. The proportions, however, differ greatly at different ages. Up to five years of age there is a large excess among the males; from which it may be inferred that girls receive a larger share of their mother's care than boys, and that the latter are exposed to more noxious influences than girls.

Burials in the whole of the Island.

Ages.	Males.		Females.	
Under 1 year	806	1,290	607	1,051
From 1 to 5	484		444	
„ 5 „ 10	72		87	
„ 10 „ 15	35		32	
„ 15 „ 20	47	272	55	326
„ 20 „ 30	133		160	
„ 30 „ 40	92		111	
„ 40 „ 50	89		86	
„ 50 „ 60	74		83	
„ 60 „ 70	111		96	
„ 70 „ 80	91		138	
„ 80 „ 90	78		98	
„ 90 „ 100	23		43	
Above 100	6		12	

The excess of mortality among females at the child-bearing ages of 15 to 40 is sufficiently accounted for. The differences at the higher ages must be matter of speculation, although the excess above 70 may arise from an excess in the number of females existing at that age, which is double that of the males. There is no difference in the proportions of children of the two sexes under 5 years of age dying in town and country. There were 53 boys to 47 girls in each.

48. From the above statements it will be seen that there is a growing excess in the proportion of females in the population by the natural annual increment, independent of that caused by the preponderance of male emigration. While there was only an excess of 32 boys born in the year, the excess of mortality of boys under 5 years of age was 149, which is in fact equivalent to the excess of female mortality above 5. The latter is only 1 per cent. upon the excess of 15,584 females existing in 1871. The former increases annually the disproportion of females over males.

12. *Education.*

49. The total number of scholars reported in the several primary and infant schools of the Island in 1871 was 15,091, and in 1872, 15,949, being an increase of 858, or about 8 per cent.

50. Of the total number there were in schools of

The Church of England - -	12,370
Moravians - - - -	1,571
Wesleyans - - - -	2,408
	15,949

The schools of the last class include Sunday schools, but those of the other two are confined to primary and infant schools. It must also be pointed out that the Moravians and Wesleyans have no other schools, while the number of children in the first class who are under instruction in private schools is considerable.

51. The figures show how much more the Moravians insist upon the instruction of the children in their congregations than either of the others. The numbers belonging to each denomination were as follows:—the number and proportion of scholars are placed in juxtaposition.

	Number.	Scholars.	Proportion of Scholars to Population.
Church of England -	144,080	12,370	9 per cent.
Moravians - - -	4,733	1,571	33 „
Wesleyans - -	12,267	2,408	19 „

The proportion of the latter would be largely reduced by the deduction of the Sunday scholars; and it must be added, that while the number has increased in 1872 in both of the other classes, there has been a slight decrease in the Wesleyan schools.

52. The Annual Report of the Inspector is confined to the result of the second examination of the infant schools, which exhibits satisfactory results, and realizes the expectations expressed in the Inspector's last Report, that much improvement would follow the change that had been made in the system of rewarding the teachers. The following exhibits the comparative results of the two examinations in the form adopted in the last Report:—

	1871.	1872.
Number of schools examined -	68	65

	1871.	1872.
Reading passes:—		
1st grade. Old Testament, well -	399	578
2nd „ New „ moderately	486	687
3rd „ Independent monosyllables	647	602
Total - - - - -	1,532	1,867
Dictation passes:—		
1st grade. Hard passage from Old Testament -	115	210
2nd „ Moderate passage from New Testament	195	386
3rd „ Monosyllables - -	377	457
Total - - - - -	687	1,053
Arithmetic passes:—		
1st grade. All the compound rules	26	90
2nd „ „ single „	69	126
3rd „ Simple addition -	480	752
Total - - - - -	575	968
Passes in catechetical religious knowledge	710	942
Passes in higher subjects - - - -	4	31
Eligible for examination in higher subjects	20	63
Attendance at examinations - -	3,674	4,137
Examinates - - - - -	1,855	2,092
Premiums, amount of - -	$267·30	394·05

53. The Inspector makes the following remarks. "There can be "no doubt, from the foregoing table, of the marked success which has "attended the application of the plan of premium examinations to the "infant schools. Grants amounting to 394 dollars arise out of the "second series of examinations, against 267 dollars in the first, the "standards being the same; an improvement, that is to say, of 47 "per cent., though the schools embraced in the second series were "fewer by three: the improvement, moreover, has been greatest in "the subjects pointed out in my last Report as being most defective, "namely, dictation and arithmetic. The success of the premium plan "in relation to the primary schools was thought to be well marked, "but between the first and third circuits, that is, after an interval of "some four years, the improvement was 32 per cent. only, though the "third circuit had six additional schools, as compared with the first.

"The first infant school re-examined had 35 children on the "second occasion, against 32 on the first. The mistress was the "same, the building the same, and the circumstances of the school, "outwardly, had undergone no change, but the premium of the second "examination more than trebled the first; the interval between the "two examinations was about two and a half years. The school is

BARBADOS.

"tributary to a neighbouring primary school under the same clergy-"man."

54. "In former reports the gross premium was divided by the gross "attendance at the examination, to ascertain the merit of the teach-"ing; and this was the best way. Now, however, I am driven to "substitute a division of the gross premiums by the number of exami-"nates, because in some schools, particularly in primary schools, I "have found the teachers discouraging the attendance of non-exami-"nates on the day of examination, with a view of obtaining an "unfair advantage over their fellow-teachers in the order of merit "list. The present plan of arranging the list gives undue advantage "generally to small schools, and to those whose number of examinates "is small in proportion to the size of the school. It will, however, "have the advantage of discouraging teachers from sending up as "examinates pupils who have little, if any, chance of obtaining a "pass: moreover, no manœuvring will obtain under it. Of course a "smaller divisor being used with the same old dividend, a larger "quotient is obtained than before."

55. The operation of the liberal grants made by the Legislature for the support—it may be said for the resuscitation—of the two principal middle class schools, referred to in the last Report, has been most satisfactory. The number of scholars in the Harrison's Grammar School, under the direction of H. Deighton, Esq., M.A., who had established a high reputation as a teacher in Trinidad, has increased beyond all expectation, and the Lodge School has shared its prosperity.

13. *Gaols and Crime.*

56. The new forms in which the returns of gaols and crimina offences are made out will afford improved means of comparing the progress of crime prevailing in the Colony, and of its repression. Some uncertainty, however, will attend those prepared retrospectively from materials not originally recorded in the form now adopted, at least in this Colony. But those inferences which may safely be drawn from this year's tables are favourable to the period.

57. The number of committals to prison is further decreased. Last year it had diminished by 7 per cent.—from 3,388 to 3,139. This year it has diminished from 3,139 to 2,767, or nearly 12 per cent., amounting to nearly one-fifth in two years. The decrease is progressive, for up to the present date there has been a continued diminution in the number of committals.

58. Some features of these returns are worthy of notice. Of the total number of committals, 2,767,—

		Per cent.
1,742	were Males	63
720	„ Females	26
305	„ Juveniles (boys)	11

59. Of the whole number 563, or 20 per cent., were for debt. Of the females 18 per cent. were for debt. With regard to the latter it must be observed, that there are no means of separating female debtors from female criminals before committal. This hardship has been brought before the Legislature, and it may be hoped that it will, with

the other evils attendant upon confining debtors not guilty of any criminal offence in connection with their insolvency, influence it to modify the law in this respect.

60. The number of persons committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, was 407, or nearly 15 per cent. So that, out of the whole number of 2,767 only 1,797 were committed for purposes of penal imprisonment, which is equal to 11 per 1000 of the population, according to the census of 1871. The proportion of recidives has an important influence upon this calculation. No less than 43 per cent. of the whole number committed in 1872 had been previously convicted, viz.:—

		Per cent.
Once	549	or 20
Twice	305	„ 11
Thrice or more	346	„ 12
Total	1,200	„ 43

Consequently only 1,597 had been convicted of an offence for the first time.

61. The character of this class of offenders may be drawn from the two facts, that out of 1,592 persons recorded as imprisoned in the table of Summary Convictions, C.C. 755, or 43 per cent., were for prædial larceny; and that out of the whole number of 1,797 prisoners committed for penal imprisonment only 97 were under a longer sentence than three months. The same inference is supported by the return of the cases tried in the Supreme Court during the year. Out of 104 cases the offences are thus classed:—

Manslaughter	4
Rape	1
Other offences against the person	13
Malicious injuries to property	15
Robbery with violence	3
Prædial larceny	15
Other offences against property	35
Miscellaneous	18
Total	104

62. Only one other feature merits notice. The proportion of females committed who had been previously convicted was greater than that of males, viz. 29, that of males being 26, per cent.; and the proportion of juvenile recidives was scarcely less, being 21 per cent. These large proportions are easily accounted for by the condition and character of the abandoned lower class of females, and of deserted children and orphans, in a West Indian community.

14. *Imports and Exports.*

63. The trade returns of the year exhibit a satisfactory result, considering the large falling off in the sugar crop of the year.

TOTAL VALUE OF IMPORTS.

	£
In 1870	1,069,867
„ 1871	1,191,888
„ 1872	1,125,030

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS.

	£
In 1870	973,020
„ 1871	1,298,546
„ 1872	1,021,443

Thus, while the exports fell off 21 per cent., the imports were only 5½ per cent. less.

64. The difference in the value of the exports in the last two years was - - - - - - - - - - - £277,103

The staple crop contributed to this to the following extent; the same rates of customs valuation having been taken in the two years:—

	£	
Sugar	218,325	
Molasses	45,671	
Rum	3,437	
		£267,433

65. The quantities and value of each of these articles is shown in the following statement, with the countries to which they were exported.

Countries.	Sugar.		Molasses.		Rum.	
	Hhds.	£	Gals.	£	Gals.	£
United Kingdom	30,637	459,555	35	160	503	38
United States	2,947	44,205	12,911	58,101	—	—
British North America	4,797	71,955	11,456	51,552	2,463	184
„ West Indies	137	2,055	34	153	—	—
Denmark	558	8,370	—	—	—	—
Total	39,076	586,140	2,966	109,966	2,966	222

66. The value of each exported in the last three years, excluding foreign produce, was:—

Year.	Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.	Proportion of Molasses and Rum to Sugar.
	£	£	£	per cent.
1870	591,990	97,974	4,063	17
1871	804,465	155,637	3,659	19
1872	586,140	109,966	222	19

67. The other exports of native produce in the last two years were:—

	1871.	1872.
	£	£
Aloes	1,046	1,530
Arrowroot	76	30
Cattle	216	—
Cotton	2,789	1,405
do. seed	150	206
Fruit and Vegetables	881	2,420
Groceries (succades and pickles)	296	416
Hides and Skins	692	660
Lime for Building	4,678	4,379
Matches (Lucifer)	—	35
Oil Kerosene	—	174
Petroleum	893	2,053
Sheep, Goats, &c.	42	—
Soda and Mineral Waters	2	—
Sugar, other than Muscovado or refined	—	973
Tamarinds	332	—
Total	£12,093	£13,281

68. The only matters worthy of notice in the above are the increase in the export of petroleum, the production of which, in the clay formation of the part of the island called Scotland, is being developed; and the appearance of kerosene oil and lucifer matches in the list. A manufacture of the latter has been established to meet the heavy duty imposed by the tariff on imported matches.

69. The value of the transit trade, which had increased by 18 per cent. in 1871, suffered a slight decrease, but only of 2·4 per cent. in 1872.

VALUE OF GOODS RE-EXPORTED.

	£
In 1870	270,599
„ 1871	319,429
„ 1872	311,834

The direction of the import and export trade has again varied, showing an increase in both branches with the British Colonies, at the expense of both the British and Foreign branches:—

IMPORTS.

	Value.			Percentage.		
	1870.	1871.	1872.	1870.	1871.	1872.
	£	£	£			
From United Kingdom	413,908	546,396	470,509	38·7	46·0	41·8
„ British Colonies	151,252	149,090	171,360	14·1	12·5	15·2
„ Foreign Countries	504,706	496,401	483,161	47·2	41·5	43·0
Total	1,069,867	1,191,888	1,125,030	100·0	100·0	100·0

EXPORTS.

	Value.			Percentage.		
	1870.	1871.	1872.	1870.	1871.	1872.
	£	£	£			
To United Kingdom -	544,455	609,869	470,525	55·9	47·1	46·0
„ United States -	295,031	415,278	398,928	30·2	32·0	39·0
„ Foreign Countries -	133,533	273,398	151,990	13·9	20·9	15·0
Total - -	973,020	1,298,546	1,021,443	100·0	100·0	100·0

The trade with the United States, both import and export, was about 3 per cent. less in 1872 than in the preceding year.

15. *Shipping.*

70. The returns show a slight increase in the number of vessels entered inwards, but a decrease both in the total tonnage and in the average size of the vessels, which is attributable to the smaller size of the British vessels. The average size of the Foreign vessels was greater, having increased from 171 tons to 182 tons; while the average of British vessels had decreased from 98 to 90 tons. This is accounted for by an increase in the traffic with the British West Indies and British Guiana, which is carried on in small vessels, and by a decrease in that with the United Kingdom, which is carried on in vessels of larger tonnage.

VESSELS ENTERED INWARDS.

	1870.	1871.	1872.
Number—			
British - - - - -	1,025	1,071	1,160
Foreign - - - - -	236	256	229
Total - - -	1,261	1,327	1,389
Tonnage—			
British - - - - -	97,442	104,962	103,693
Foreign - - - - -	41,093	43,799	41,764
Total - - -	138,535	148,761	145,457
Average Tonnage—			
British - - - - -	95	98	90
Foreign - - - - -	174	171	182
Total - - -	110	112	105

71. The number and tonnage of vessels arriving in ballast was smaller, and those of vessels clearing in ballast was greater, than in 1871, both results being explained by the shortness of the crop.

VESSELS IN BALLAST.

	1871.		1872.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Entered—				
British - - - - -	107	11,396	91	8,559
Foreign - - - - -	22	2,325	20	1,341
Total - - - -	129	13,721	111	9,900

VESSELS IN BALLAST—*continued.*

	1871.		1872.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Cleared—				
British	76	12,248	97	16,838
Foreign	62	15,474	77	19,084
Total	138	27,722	174	35,932

It is probable that the number of vessels calling at Barbados will increase, as the submarine telegraph favours the despatch of orders to this port for the guidance of vessels returning to Europe and America.

72. The following statement will show the changes in the traffic with the principal countries, some of which have been already noticed:—

	1871.		1872.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Entered from—				
United Kingdom	106	33,489	81	23,921
United States	174	39,093	170	38,773
British North American Colonies	110	16,699	126	18,994
British West Indies and Guiana	771	38,982	858	46,377
Foreign West Indies	99	6,014	95	5,560
Other countries	58	13,384	58	11,588
Whalers	9	1,100	1	244
Total	1,327	148,761	1,389	145,457
Cleared to—				
United Kingdom	74	29,512	60	21,864
United States	85	17,979	44	8,621
British North American Colonies	76	11,169	71	10,727
British West Indies and Guiana	865	56,006	945	48,010
Foreign West Indies	194	31,470	222	17,548
Other countries	26	1,512	8	1,489
Whalers	8	998	8	802
Total	1,338	148,646	1,386	145,905

73. The percentage of the total tonnage entered and cleared in the trade with each country was as follows:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.
To and from—				
United Kingdom	23	16	20	15
„ States	26	26	12	6
British North America	11	13	8	7
„ West Indies	17	18	29	33
„ Guiana	9	14	9	12
Foreign West Indies	4	4	21	25
Dutch Guiana	—	—	—	1
Buenos Ayres	4	3	—	—
Peru	4	1	—	—
Other countries	2	5	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100

74. The proportion of British tonnage employed was rather greater in 1872, and that of American and French tonnage rather smaller:—

PERCENTAGE OF TONNAGE ENTERED.

	1871.	1872.
British - - - - - - -	70	71
American - - - - - - -	21	19
French - - - - - - -	4	2
Other - - - - - - -	5	8
Total -	100	100

16. *General Remarks.*

75. Although the returns of imports do not show that falling off which the means of purchasing, measured by the produce of the crop, might render probable, it must be pointed out that they were kept up by importations of food, which the loss of root and grain crops, the staple food of the labouring population, caused by the protracted drought, necessitated. The following comparison of the quantities of the principal articles of imported food, on which duty was paid in the two years, 1871–2, will show this, and indicate the extent to which the population is at all times dependent upon food from abroad, and the extent to which the latter enters into the annual import trade of the Colony:—

QUANTITIES ENTERED FOR CONSUMPTION.

		1871.	1872.
Bread - - - -	cwts.	33,665	36,018
Corn and grain - -	bushels	247,352	298,281
Corn meal - - -	barrels	51,503	66,152
Fish, dried - -	quintals	87,002	99,170
„ pickled - -	barrels	17,673	19,426
Flour - - -	„	39,311	40,703
Meat - - -	cwts.	10,428	10,778
Rice - - -	„	55,674	61,783

The value of the above articles exceeded that of one-third of the total imports.

76. Nevertheless it is satisfactory to be able to report that, notwithstanding the unfavourable character of the season, there was no evidence of unusual distress among the agricultural labourers, except that indicated by a large emigration, especially from the districts on which the drought pressed most heavily, viz. St. Lucy and St. Andrew. Crime certainly did not increase, which may be owing either to the emigration of the most impoverished class, or to the dread of an improved system of discipline in the prisons. The year, however, must be counted as a hard one; and it closed with the prospect, already realized, of another very short crop in 1873.

I have, &c.,

Government House,
20th Sept., 1873.

(Signed) RAWSON W. RAWSON.

ST. VINCENT.

No. 8.

Governor RAWSON to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Received April 29, 1873.
Forwarded May 3, 1873.
RAWSON W. RAWSON, Governor.

SIR, Government House, St. Vincent, April 16, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book for this Colony for the year 1872, with the accompanying Report thereon.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

2. Under this head there were but two slight changes,—the one, that, in consideration of the employers being relieved of the responsibility and cost of the medical care of their immigrants by the appointment of Government medical officers, they were required to contribute, in re-imbursement of the expenses, the sum of 12*s.* 6*d.* per annum for each immigrant under indenture above the age of eight years; the other, that the fees formerly receivable by the magistrates, to their own uses, as coroners and for business transacted in their Petty Debt Courts, were made payable into the Treasury for public uses, and increased salaries were given in commutation.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The revenue of the year was 33,717*l.*, derived as under:—

	£
From taxes for general purposes - -	26,248
From taxes for troops - - - - -	5,876
From taxes for immigration - - -	1,593

4. This was a larger revenue than was received in 1871, itself the largest for many years. Except in export duties, in which there was a falling off, the increase extended to all the principal items. The receipts from fees of office were 463*l.* more than in the previous year, chiefly attributable to other offices having been brought under the new system, and the re-imbursements in aid of revenue showed 652*l.* derived under the Medical Aid Act, which came into operation at the commencement of the year.

5. The expenditure for general purposes was 26,705*l.*, against 21,696*l.* in 1871.

6. The appointment of five district medical officers and of an inspector of schools, with the increase to the salaries of the magistrates in commutation of their fees, caused an increase of 1,590*l.* in the fixed establishments; and the pension to Mr. Reily, the former magistrate of Kingstown—the grants in aid to the Wesleyan Society and to the Roman Catholics—the subsidy to the West India and Panama

ST. VINCENT.

Telegraph Company for the latter half of the year—the establishment of an inland post—the purchase of arms—and the erection of bridges, all new items, fully explain the cause of the further increase of the expenditure in 1872.

7. The assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 1st of January in the present year were :—

Assets.	£	Liabilities.	£
Cash balances - - -	5,224	Due depositors in Savings Bank - - - - -	2,513
Advance to the Town of Kingstown for Waterworks - -	8,232	„ town of Kingstown on current account - -	34
Advance to the Immigration Fund - - - -	2,083	„ Commissioners of Public Lands, &c. - - - -	63
		Surplus - - - -	12,929
Total - -	£15,539	Total - -	£15,539

showing a surplus of assets of 12,929*l.*, and an increase in the year of 939*l.*

8. The immigration revenue of 1,593*l.* was less than in 1871 owing to short crops, and consequently diminished exports. But aided by the usual contribution of a sum equal to one-half of its receipts from the general revenue, and by the indenture fees from the employers, it not only met the demands on it for working expenses, for interest, and for a remittance of 1,250*l.* to the Emigration Commissioners in London as an advance for another shipload of Coolies, but it also paid off 851*l.* of its debt to the general revenue.

9. The revenue for troops was also less than in the previous year, but after paying all claims upon it there was a surplus of 1,396*l.*, which was carried to the credit of the general revenue.

10. There was a slight increase in the revenue of the town of Kingstown. Its expenditure, besides what was necessary for ordinary purposes, included a sum of 472*l.* for the erection of iron sheds in the market. This was met by the accumulation of revenue of the two previous years.

Public Debt.

11. The Colony was free from debt.

Military Expenditure.

12. The sum of 4,000*l.* was contributed from the Colonial funds to the Imperial Government in re-imbursement of the cost of a company of H.M. troops stationed in the Island; and 480*l.* were expended in keeping in repair the barracks occupied by them at Fort Charlotte. The band of the militia was maintained, and certain other expenses incidental to this service were incurred amounting to 160*l.* Under this head may also be mentioned a sum of 628*l.* paid for arms and stores purchased from the Imperial Government.

Public Works.

13. The public works undertaken during the year were of considerable importance; and an amount much in excess of the expenditure of the previous year was spent on them.

14. The works for the supply of water to the town of Kingstown, estimated to cost 7,000*l.*, which were commenced in 1871, were almost finished by the middle of the year under report, when unfortunately the iron reservoir imported from England for containing 75,000 gallons of water in reserve for fire purposes gave way. This accident delayed the completion of the works as regarded the full supply of water intended to be kept on hand in case of fire, but for ordinary uses the town was supplied from the new works during the latter half of the year, and a stone reservoir, containing about 50,000 gallons, was in reserve. The necessary material for strengthening and repairing the iron reservoir was received in the present year, and the works will shortly be finished in accordance with the plans.

15. Hydrants are arranged at convenient distances throughout the town, and from the two reservoirs, which will contain together 125,000 gallons at a considerable elevation, a strong force of water will at a moment's notice be ready to play on any building which may be on fire. There are also a number of water pillars in the streets for the convenient supply of water to the poorer inhabitants.

16. The cost of this work has exceeded the estimate. At the end of 1872, 8,332*l.* had been expended ; but it is only fair to state that the estimate was based on the assumption that the water supply from the springs belonging to the Government would have been sufficient, whereas it was found necessary to purchase other springs, which has added about 1,200*l.* to the cost.

17. Two iron bridges were erected over streams on the line of road from Kingstown to the north-eastern end of the Island. These streams were at all times, especially to passengers on foot, a source of discomfort ; but in the wet season they became very much swollen, in particular that known as the "Colonarie," and were often very dangerous to cross.

18. These bridges were erected at a cost of 1,743*l.* The estimate for them did not embrace so large an amount, but the rise in iron, and local difficulties in their erection and in the construction of the roadway approaches, have considerably enhanced their cost. Their value, however, to the community is beyond count.

19. The plans approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the extension and improvement of the gaol accommodation were further carried out, and 688*l.* were spent for this purpose.

20. A larger sum than usual was laid out in the improvement of the highways and in the ordinary repairs to the public buildings.

21. For the comfort of persons attending the market in Kingstown two large iron sheds, each 100 feet long by 20 feet wide, were erected, at a cost to the town funds of 472*l.* These are fitted with double rows of counter-tables, affording accommodation to vendors and purchasers. As this is the very first attempt which has been made for furnishing protection in the way of shelter from the tropical sun and rains for the persons frequenting the market, it may be easily imagined how much these structures are appreciated. A small drinking fountain has also been imported for erection in the market.

Legislation.

22. Thirteen Acts were passed during the year, of which the following were the most important:—an Act to amend the Small Debts Act; an Education Act; an Act to incorporate a Steam Navigation Company, and an Act to establish an Inland Post.

23. The original Small Debts Act, which gives jurisdiction to the police magistrates in matters of debt on simple contract not exceeding 5*l.*, authorises the imprisonment of the debtor for a term of 14 or 30 days in default of payment of the debt or of goods and chattels sufficient to satisfy it, and made his maintenance while in gaol a charge on the public funds. The amending Act varies this last provision and requires the judgment creditor, when proceeding against the person of his debtor, to pay to the magistrate, in re-imbursement to the public for his maintenance in gaol, a sum calculated at the rate of 6*d.* for each day for which he may be committed, and the amount so paid is recoverable as costs.

24. This is a very important change. It relieves the public of a charge to which it ought not to have been subjected, and it indirectly is a step towards the abolition of imprisonment for debt, because it is not probable that the creditor having made a loss by his bad debt will add to it the further loss of seven or fifteen shillings for the purpose of keeping in gaol for 14 or 30 days one who will think it no disgrace and no privation to be detained there, but will rather appreciate it as an agreeable term of repose from labour. It will also tend to check the too common credit system, and the inducement thereby held out to the labouring class to run into debt, and it may make them more careful and thrifty in their habits. Already this Act has had the effect of diminishing the number of commitments to gaol, for in the last six months of the year under its operation only 25 small debtors were imprisoned, though under writs which had issued before the change was effected there were 73 sent to gaol in the year, and the average number committed in the three previous years was 127.

25. The process for recovery of a debt by levy and sale of the real estate of the debtor is also simplified; but against this description of property no proceedings can be taken until the debtor's goods and chattels have been exhausted and found insufficient to satisfy the debt.

26. This Act also modifies the right of issuing out writs of capias ad respondendum. They cannot now be had except for debts above forty shillings, and not then if the debtor is leaving behind him any property which could be made answerable for the debt.

27. The Education Act repeals the former Acts by which grants were made to a sort of upper primary school and to a grammar school in Kingstown, and certain fixed annual sums were given to the several religious denominations in aid of the schools established by them, but over the expenditure of which moneys there was no Government supervision. The Governor in Council by the present Act is authorized to make rules for determining the standard to which schools shall attain before they shall receive State aid, for the mode in which such aid shall be given, and for the inspection and management of State-aided schools. A Board of Education, of which

the Governor is president, with the assistance of a salaried inspector, has to see that the rules are complied with. The rules divide the schools into two classes—town schools and villages chools, and require, as conditions before receiving aid, an average attendance of 30 in the former and 20 in the latter class, and the regular payment by the scholars of a small weekly fee. Fixed allowances are given to the teachers, according to the class of the school, and a capitation grant for each scholar above the numbers of 30 and 20 respectively. Half-yearly examinations are to be held, when certain præmia will be also paid to the teachers in respect of scholars who may attain a fixed standard having paid their school fees and been in attendance for a certain period of the half-year. The religious instruction is to be in the elementary principles of the Christian religion, and it is to be given at a fixed time in each school, of which notice shall be publicly exhibited in the school-room, and no scholar will be required to attend whose parent may object to his receiving the religious instruction of the school.

28. As far as a judgment can be formed of a measure which has only been in operation for a few months, this Act is a good one; but to give it proper scope, a very much larger sum of money than the 800*l.* per annum granted by it must be placed at the disposal of the Board of Education. No provision has as yet been attempted for establishing, or aiding, an upper class grammar-school, nor can any be made until a larger grant is given, though the want of such a school is very much felt.

29. The Act to incorporate the St. Vincent Steam Navigation Company will be a measure of considerable importance to the Colony if the Company can carry out their scheme, which is to provide a steam-vessel for the conveyance of passengers and goods along the sea-coast of this Island, and between it and the islands comprised within its Government. At present the communication is by small rowing-boats, or canoes, which are uncomfortable for passengers for any distance, and are inconvenient and inadequate for the traffic, and at certain seasons are unsafe. They also waste labour, as they require a number of men to work them quite out of proportion to the freight they carry. It will be a marked day in the history of this Island when the object of this Company is attained, and a steamer, capable of affording easy and safe transit of passengers and goods from one part of the Government to another is plying in its waters. The facilities that will be afforded to the small growers of produce, and to the labourers who are cultivators of provisions, in bringing their supplies to the market, will be greatly increased, and the benefit to both growers and consumers will be incalculable.

30. The Inland Post Act provides for the maintenance of daily postal communication between the town of Kingstown and the distant parts of the country. Mounted policemen act as the letter-carriers on the windward side of the Island, the conveyance on the leeward side being by boat. The rates charged are one penny for a letter not exceeding half an ounce, and an additional penny for every additional half-ounce, and one penny for a book package or parcel not exceeding two ounces, and an additional penny for every additional two ounces or fraction thereof.

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31. It is not contemplated that these rates will yield an income sufficient to cover the expenses of the service; but the principal cost being in the pay and keep of the policemen and horses, who are maintained as part of the protective force of the Colony, and who would be comparatively idle were they not made use of in this way, the further outlay is looked upon as fully compensated by the convenience afforded to the whole community by the daily mail. Before its establishment, communication with the windward part of the island was uncertain, and only to be had by means of chance messengers, or by the hire of one at the cost of six or eight shillings for taking perhaps but one letter.

Civil Establishment.

32. Many changes and some additions were made during the year in the Civil Establishment. Lieutenant-Governor Rennie left on the 2nd July to administer the Government of the Island of Trinidad, and I was placed in the temporary administration of this Government. Mr. Hawtayne who had held a district-magistracy since 1857, was appointed to the town district on the retirement of Mr. John Reily, whose long services were recognized by a pension. Mr. Van Hiejningen, who had been acting for three years as a magistrate, was transferred to the vacant office of Chief of Police, Mr. John P. Drysdale from St. Lucia being appointed to succeed him. Mr. Thomas Angell Bennett was sent from England to fill the newly created office of Inspector of Schools, and to be also Immigration Agent in the room of Mr. D'Oyly, who was transferred to the Windward Magistracy. Mr. John Manning, who had served as an assistant in the office of the Governor-in-Chief in Barbados, was appointed Colonial Postmaster. Five medical men were provided for the country districts under the new law for the gratuitous medical care and attendance on children and the aged. Two of these had been residents for some years, but Dr. Newsam, from a neighbouring colony, and Drs. Hawke and Galgey from Europe, were added to the local medical staff. Mr. Allan Lewis, who had been absent for some time, was, on his return, transferred, at his request, from the office of Magistrate to that of Colonial Registrar. Mr. Thomas Wells Durrant was appointed Escheator-General and Casual Receiver, in the place of the former officer who had died.

Pensions.

33. The pension list was increased by the retirement of Mr. John Reily, who had served the office of Magistrate for a period of 27 years, the last fifteen of which were as Magistrate of the Kingstown District. His pension is 242*l.* 8*s.* per annum.

Population.

34. The population, by the census taken in April, 1871, was 35,688. By the excess of births over deaths in the remaining portion of that year, 448 were added to the number; and the

returns for 1872 show a further addition of 641, bringing up the total, with the 323 coolies introduced in June, 1871, to 37,100.

35. There were 827 male and 805 female children born alive, and 61 male and 47 female still-births. The birth-rate (including still-births) was 45 per thousand, and the death-rate 27 per thousand—in the previous year these rates were respectively 47 and 28. No improvement in morality is shown, for the illegitimate births were 58 per cent. The marriages were less in number than in 1871.

36. Not counting still-births as deaths, there were 991 deaths in the year, namely, 512 males and 479 females. Of these 145 males and 106 females were under one year of age—a proportion over 25 per cent.—and the deaths under 15 years of age were 55 per cent. The following Table shows the per-centage of these deaths in the several districts of the Island in the last two years:—

Districts.	Under One Year.		Under Fifteen Years.	
	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.
Kingstown - -	21·8 per cent.	21·9 per cent.	49·8 per cent.	49·8 per cent.
Calliaqua - -	21·4 „ „	18·2 „ „	55·8 „ „	56·8 „ „
Windward - -	27·6 „ „	29·7 „ „	67·5 „ „	61·5 „ „
Leeward - - -	37·0 „ „	32·8 „ „	66·3 „ „	55·1 „ „
Grenadines - -	27·1 „ „	28·5 „ „	49·1 „ „	55·0 „ „

37. It is worthy of notice that in the Kingstown district, in which two medical men have been always resident, the mortality amongst children has been invariably less than in the other districts in which there were no resident doctors, until their introduction in January, 1872, under the provisions of the Medical Aid Act. The above Table shows no variation in the rates of the two years in the Kingstown district, which are still the lowest; but it exhibits an improvement in 1872 in the Calliaqua, Windward and Leeward districts, for which doctors had been provided.

Savings Bank.

38. The number of persons making use of the bank during the year was 304, and the amount deposited, deducting withdrawals, was 1,124*l.* At the close of the year there were 282 depositors, and 2,513*l.* on deposit. Interest is guaranteed at 3 per cent., and 54*l.* were paid to depositors on the transactions of the year. In 1871 the bank was used by 220 persons, and at the end of that year 1,389*l.* were on deposit. This institution is steadily extending its usefulness, but it may be a long while before the negro and the coolie can be prevailed upon to abandon altogether the practice of secreting their moneys, and be persuaded that their earnings will be safer in a bank than hoarded in hidden corners of their houses, or buried in the ground. The criminal records exhibit in late years some sharp lessons in the loss by theft of money so hoarded, and these may influence to the change.

Education.

39. The number of schools in 1872 was 53, and of the scholars attending them 2,317; in 1871 they were respectively 47 and 3,318. These figures unexplained would give the idea that there had been a considerable falling off in the attendance in 1872, but the decrease is really due to the fact that the returns for that year were made on a more correct principle—the *average* number of scholars in attendance being given, instead of, as in 1871, the numbers on the school-books. The number of schools was increased by the opening of several new ones in the hope that they would receive State aid under the new law, but the present Legislative grant is too small to admit of this, and I doubt if they can be carried on without that aid. Thirty schools received State aid in 1871 to the extent of 850*l.*, and 17 were carried on without this aid. The voluntary contributions and fees received towards the support of all these schools amounted to 899*l.* In 1872 the sum of 770*l.* was divided amongst 31 State-aided schools, and 980*l.* were received from voluntary contributions and fees.

40. The Inspector of Schools arrived in August. The results of his supervision will be seen in this year.

Imports and Exports.

41. The imports for the year were valued at 156,136*l.*, and the exports at 242,298*l.* The values, as compared with the previous year, were as under :—

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.
	£	£	£	£
Great Britain - - -	75,058	75,602	239,738	220,359
British West Indies - -	69,681	61,856	8,564	11,110
British North America -	4,545	8,026	3,606	4,713
United States of America -	4,383	6,432	2,614	3,834
Other Countries - -	3,668	4,220	1,454	2,282
£	157,335	156,136	255,976	242,298

42. The imports from Great Britain were slightly increased. A larger trade was done with the United States and with British North America, but to the diminution of the imports from the British West Indies. This I look upon as a more healthy state of things, as a direct trade with the continent of Americain lieu of drawing supplies through Barbadoes, must tend to benefit consumers both in the quality and in the cheapness of the goods. The quantities of each description of the imported goods vary but slightly in the two years.

43. The quantities and value of the exported productions of the Colony in 1871 and 1872 are stated as follows :—

Products.	Quantities.			Values.	
		1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.
				£	£
Sugar - -	Hogsheads	13,315	11,332	199,576	181,396
Molasses - -	Puncheons	953	1,610	3,812	6,440
Rum - -	Puncheons	2,656	1,933	21,376	19,205
Arrowroot - -	Barrels -	10,894	11,782	16,732	18,146
Cotton - -	Pounds -	27,104	54,432	106	108
Cocoa - - -	Pounds -	5,680	5,760	2,270	1,944

Shipping.

44. The vessels entered and cleared at the port of Kingstown (the only port of entry and clearance) in the year 1872 were more in number than in 1871. The table hereunder gives the difference:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No. of Ships.	No. of Tons.	No. of Ships.	No. of Tons.
1871 - -	340	20,763	334	21,427
1872 - -	416	23,265	410	22,723

45. The figures below will show the increased trade with the United States, and with British North America:—

ENTERED.

	1871.				1872.			
	With Cargo.		In ballast.		With Cargo.		In ballast.	
	No. of Ships.	No. of Tons.	No. of Ships.	No. of Tons.	No. of Ships.	No. of Tons.	No. of Ships.	No. of Tons.
United States - -	5	1150	3	259	7	1352	4	310
British North America -	18	2103	—	—	24	3267	—	—
CLEARED.								
United States - -	4	540	5	989	4	496	9	1803
British North America -	12	1479	6	861	9	913	14	2271

Agriculture.

46. The Grand Sable Estate, containing about 1,400 acres of land, situated in the most fertile part of the Island, was brought to sale in the West India Encumbered Estates Court in London in the month of November, and was purchased for 4,200*l*. This was formerly considered the finest estate in the Island, but, being heavily encumbered, it ceased to be cultivated about nine years ago, and has since remained abandoned. Before proceedings were taken in the Court all the buildings had been removed, except the dwelling-house, which had been partially gutted and was in a ruinous condition. The purchase-money, therefore, was paid for the land alone, and it will require an

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outlay of perhaps more than twice the sum to re-erect the sugar works, and to bring the estate into cultivation. When this is done the whole of that fertile tract of land known as the Charaib country will be again cultivated in sugar, and in a far superior style than ever it was. There is nothing new to remark upon in the way of improvements. Wages remained the same, and the prices of food did not vary from the previous year.

Crime.

47. The people were orderly and well-behaved, and the calendar presented but few and trifling cases of crime. In the Superior Criminal Court there were 21 indictments filed, of which the grand jury ignored four, five resulted in acquittals, one was found insane, and only 11 convictions were had. Of these the serious cases were two for arson—a crime more or less prevalent here at all times; eight were for sheep and pig stealing, and other offences against property, and one for assault. In the Magistrates' Courts there were 2,665 informations and complaints laid, 1,010 of which resulted in convictions, 356 were dismissed on their merits, 1,280 were discharged for want of prosecution, and 19 were sent up to the Superior Court for trial. Of the convictions 246 were for offences against the person, 216 against property, including 60 for prædial larceny, and 82 were for breaches of contract under the Masters and Servants Acts. That only 82 convictions should have occurred in cases of the kind last mentioned, in a population of 36,000 persons, at least the one-half of whom stand in the relations to each other of masters and servants, tells very much in favour of the good understanding which is maintained between those classes.

Gaols and Prisoners.

48. The commitments to gaol in 1872 were 289, of which 178 were for penal punishment, 21 for temporary confinement, and 90 for debt. The corresponding numbers in 1871 were 344, 191, 22, and 131. The daily average number in gaol were 39 against 41 in 1871. Only one person was committed for five years, 10 for periods between one and five years, and 15 for periods above three months and less than one year; the rest, 152, were committed by the police magistrates for various minor offences for periods less than three months. Of the 178 for penal punishment, 15 per cent. were old offenders, persons who had been previously convicted three or more times, 14 per cent. had been twice convicted, and 32 per cent. once. There were only 18 punishments for breaches of prison discipline, a less number than in the previous year. The sanitary condition was very good; no deaths occurred, and there were not many on the sick-list. Those returned as "Admissions to Hospital" include all who were on the surgeon's list, most of them, however, trivial complaints not really requiring hospital treatment in the strict sense of the word.

49. The cost of the establishment was 808*l*. 14*s*. 3*d*., equal to an average per prisoner of about 20*l*.

50. The improvements in the buildings have been pushed on. In

1871 the airing yard for the male prisoners was enlarged, and a treadwheel erected; in 1872 the new building, containing on the upper floor quarters for the gaoler, and on the ground floor rooms for the warders and a visitors' room, was completed, and the airing yard for the female prisoners was enlarged. The improvements to the matron's quarters, and to the existing sleeping wards for the female prisoners, and the erection of an additional sleeping ward and an hospital for their use were commenced. These are nearly completed; and tenders are about to be invited for transforming the old gaolers' quarters into an hospital for male prisoners, and the rooms underneath into cells on the separate system.

Hospitals.

51. More cases were treated in the Colonial Hospital than in the previous year; and there has been a marked extension in the usefulness of this Institution since the present management was established. The death-rate was also less than in the years immediately preceding. The out-door patients were fewer in number than in 1871, but this the surgeon attributes, and perhaps rightly, to the appointment in the last year of district medical officers.

Sanitary.

52. The health of the Colony was good. By the strict maintenance of quarantine regulations against the island of Trinidad, in which there was a severe outbreak of small-pox, the disease was kept out, though a case occurred among the crew of one of the vessels of this port which had made a voyage to Trinidad.

53. The case was singular, as showing how this disease may be taken and lie dormant for weeks before declaring itself. The vessel sailed hence with cargo for Trinidad. She there discharged her cargo into a lighter anchored in the quarantine station. She had no communication with the Island,—none of her crew went on shore,—and no one went on board of her. She left in ballast and returned to this port. She was placed in the quarantine ground; and, after lying there a few days, she left for Barbadoes and Martinique. At the latter island, 20 days after having left Trinidad, and on the eve of her departure for this port one of the crew showed symptoms of sickness, and on the arrival of the vessel here it was found that he was suffering from small-pox of the worst type. He was removed to an islet a few miles off, where he was attended by his wife and by nurses provided for him, but he succumbed to the disease a few days after. Neither his wife nor any one of the four persons attending him, nor any of his fellow-sailors, were attacked by the disease, and no other case occurred in the Colony. The quarantine against Trinidad was abrogated on the 9th of November, and free intercourse was resumed.

54. Compulsory vaccination, on terms similar to those of the Imperial Statute, was established by Act in 1868. Immediately thereupon vaccination, which had not been attended to in the Island for upwards of eight years, was rigorously enforced, until, by the death of two of the medical practitioners in 1870–71, it was unavoid-

ST. VINCENT.

ably interrupted. Upon the arrival of the doctors who were appointed under the Medical Aid Act it was again insisted on, and 2,176 children were vaccinated in 1872; 907 of these were residents in the Grenadines, a number of small islands where no doctor had been resident, and where consequently no vaccination had been performed for very many years, and to which for this purpose a medical officer was specially sent. The vaccination of children is now regularly kept up. But some difficulty on the score of lymph is experienced, because strong prejudices exist among the different races and classes against the common use of arm-to-arm vaccination. This difficulty is overcome in a great measure by the receipt monthly of a few tubes of lymph from the Medical Department of the Privy Council, a supply of which is greatly appreciated.

General.

55. The rainfall was considerably less than in 1871, and, with two exceptions, it was the least of eight years. At the Government House, about 300 feet above the level of the sea, 89·48 inches were registered, the average of eight years being 100·60 inches. The greatest fall was in 1867, 122·80 inches; the least in 1869, 76·02 inches.

56. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company completed the connection by cable between these islands and America and Europe early in the year. The cable beween Jamaica and Cuba, however, broke shortly after; from this and other causes the through communication was interrupted on several occasions. The wires are much used, and are commonly resorted to by the mercantile community in business matters; the negociations between a firm here and a London house for the purchase of the Grand Sable Estate were conducted and concluded by means of them.

57. In this year, at the request of the Legislative Assembly, arrangements were made for the withdrawal of the detachment of H.M. troops which had been stationed in the Island since 1868, and towards the maintenance of which the Colony had been contributing to the Imperial Exchequer the annual sum of 4,000*l*. The troops were not, however, removed until the 4th of March in this year. Public opinion was very much divided upon the policy of this movement.

58. On the whole the year was rather a favourable one than otherwise, for, although the sugar crop was below that of 1871, better prices compensated, in a measure, for the loss in quantity, and in other respects there was nothing to complain of,—the health of the Colony was excellent,—its revenue was larger,—substantial public works of considerable importance were completed,—and the people were quiet and contented.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) EDWARD LABORDE.

Governor Rawson, C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

GRENADA.

No. 9.

Governor RAWSON, C.B., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Received May 29, 1873.
Forwarded June 2, 1873.
RAWSON W. RAWSON, Governor.

SIR, Government Office, May 13, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1872, together with my Report thereon.

Revenue.

While the taxes remained the same as the year 1871, the revenue of 1872 amounted to 24,527*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*, and exceeded that of the previous year by 1,647*l.* 10*s.* The principal increase in the revenue was in Customs and fees of office.

The revenue was made up as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Customs	11,556	2	9
Tonnage	652	18	8
Excise	4,920	17	1
Licences	2,046	11	0
Fees and Fines	2,093	6	1
Post Office	203	15	4
Assessed Taxes	2,524	13	3
Miscellaneous	529	4	0
	£24,527	8	2

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the same period amounted to 25,981*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, and shows an increase of 4,841*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* as compared with that of the previous year, leaving a surplus revenue of 4,445*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* to the credit of the service for the year 1873.

The increased expenditure was principally for quarantine, repairs of public buildings, and the subsidy to the Telegraph Company.

The expenditure was made up as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Civil	3,869	8	9
Judicial	3,812	13	2
Ecclesiastical	2,011	0	0
Legislative	660	3	7
Education	1,315	18	4
Sanitary and Poor Relief	4,591	13	10
Police and Gaols	3,196	14	9
Roads and Works	5,186	9	4
Pensions	77	0	0
Miscellaneous	1,260	13	4
	£25,981	15	1

GRENADA.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF LOCAL REVENUES AND SPECIAL FUNDS.

Funds.	Revenue.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure. £	s.	d.
Immigration -	Balance (1st Jan., 1872)	1,868	5	0						
	Receipts (Dec., 1872)	5,296	5	5						
					7,164	10	5	6,302	1	8
Water - - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1872)	1,824	6	2						
	Receipts (Dec., 1872)	208	0	11						
					2,032	7	1	1,852	3	9
Harbour - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1872)	52	14	4						
	Receipts (Dec., 1872)	76	1	5						
					128	15	9			
Education - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1872)	342	0	3						
	Receipts (Dec., 1872)	75	15	10						
					417	16	1			
Public lands -	Balance (1st Jan., 1872)	459	0	11						
	Receipts (Dec., 1872)	503	5	5						
					962	6	4	154	17	5
Post Office - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1872)	57	9	7						
	Receipts (Dec., 1872)	1,330	10	3						
					1,387	19	10	1,316	8	9
Street - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1872)	33	15	11						
	Receipts (Dec., 1872)	211	8	6						
					245	4	5	136	14	5
Church land - -	Balance (1st Jan., 1872)	59	0	11½						
	Receipts (Dec., 1872)	126	17	6						
					185	18	5½	40	5	6
Port of Grenville	Balance (1st Jan., 1872)	111	2	0						
	Receipts (Dec.. 1872)	449	2	8						
					560	4	8	423	14	10

Public Debt.

There is no alteration under this head beyond the borrowing of 1,800*l.* under Act No. 437 from the Water Fund for immigration purposes. The amount of stock to the credit of the sinking fund at the close of the year towards the loan of 7,000*l.* was 6,775*l.* 14*s.*

Works and Buildings.

Those completed are the Market House, St. Patrick's; Court House, Carriacou; Public Latrines, St. George's; temporary bridge at Dougaldstone, St. John's. In progress are the Court House and Anglican Church, St. George's; the Court House, St. Patrick's; and the Roman Catholic Church, Carriacou.

The roads have been somewhat improved in places, but no permanent improvement can be effected without a plentiful supply of metal. I am doubtful if I shall be able to procure a traction engine and stone-crusher for this purpose, as the Legislature have refused to sanction a slight increase to the sum they originally voted,—an increase necessitated by the enhanced price of iron and the labour market in England.

Legislation.

Nineteen Acts were passed during the year.

The principal of these effect amendments in the administration of justice, introducing some of the provisions of the latest Imperial Acts affecting escheated estates, the casual revenue of the Crown arising

from escheated estates, the relief of trustees in certain cases, the procedure in actions of ejectment, abolishing the fiction of Doe and Roe, the law relating to the property of married women, and, lastly, to facilitate the partition and sale of undivided real estate.

The remaining Acts of any importance are, one establishing separate sittings of the Supreme Court of Judicature for the trial of criminal and civil cases, and the other, an amended Act providing for the consolidation and publication of the laws.

These Acts indicate a marked progress in law reform, which was urgently needed; much more, however, remains to be accomplished.

The committee that I appointed to consolidate and amend the laws have made considerable progress, and the following are now under the consideration of the Legislature, viz.: Import Duties, Customs, Treasury, Registrar's Office, Tonnage, Harbour, Education, Colony Hospital, Public Officer's Protection, Gaol, Tenement, Wills, Criminal, Limitation of Actions, Suits, &c., Summary Offences and Appeal.

A Civil Court and Procedure Bill has likewise been prepared and submitted to the Legislature. This is an important measure, and I trust it may soon form part of our laws.

Civil Establishment.

The changes during the past year were as follows:—

The Honourable W. A. M. Sheriff, appointed Attorney-General in the room of A. P. Burt, deceased.

Dr. A. M. Lang left the parish of St. George for St. Andrew's, and Dr. J. Craig succeeded him as Medical Officer of the Poor House and Lunatic Asylum.

W. I. Roach appointed Surveyor of Public Works.

T. R. Griffith assumed the duties of Auditor of Public Accounts, and W. S. Comissiong was appointed Escheator-General.

Population.

The population is estimated to have been 39,006 on December 31 last. The number of births registered was 1,733, and of deaths 960, being an increase of births over deaths of 773, or 2·01 per cent. of the total estimated population. The birth-rate was 4·51 per cent., and the death-rate 2·49 per cent.

There were 219 marriages solemnized during the year, being 10 in excess of the previous year.

An Act has recently been passed which will enable a Return of successful vaccination to be supplied in future.

The following table shows the birth and death rates for the last seven years:—

Years.	Birth.	Death.
1866 - -	4·16 per cent.	2·50 per cent.
1867 - -	4·05 „	2·69 „
1868 - -	4·14 „	2·48 „
1869 - -	4·43 „	2·66 „
1870 - -	3·98 „	2·26 „
1871 - -	4·50 „	2·52 „
1872 - -	4·51 „	2·49 „

Education.

TABLE showing the NUMBER OF CHILDREN who have been in attendance at the various SCHOOLS receiving aid from the Government for the past four years :—

Years.	Grammar School.	Normal School.	Church of England.	Wesleyans.	Roman Catholic.	Total.
1869 - - -	28	63	988	301	594	1,974
1870 - - -	30	87	1,335	371	506	2,529
1871 - - -	20	101	1,117	308	507	2,053
1872 - - -	15	98	1,094	415	625	2,247

The Board of Education were compelled to close the Grammar School, the number of pupils having dwindled down to 11 ; moreover, it was found that scholars did not remain long enough to receive instruction in the higher branches of education for which the school was established. I trust before long it may be re-opened, and by combining it with a boarding-house that more parents will be induced to avail themselves of the advantage derived from it for their sons.

There has been a slight addition to the number attending various schools, but not to so great an extent as I could wish. Many of the children are likewise not continuous in their attendance, which is much to be regretted.

Imports and Exports.

The subjoined tables exhibit the direction of trade. The value of imports for 1872 exceed that of the previous year by about 10,000*l.*

IMPORTS.

Countries.	1869.			1870.			1871.			1872.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
United Kingdom	98,331	12	0	54,443	9	5	68,021	9	5	69,309	3	3
British Colonies	41,589	4	0	35,914	12	11	43,886	0	8	50,389	4	10
United States -	32,836	16	8	10,796	9	6	17,830	5	8	19,619	13	10
Other foreign countries -	3,719	13	6	3,330	8	0	2,729	3	2	3,117	14	2
Totals - £	176,477	6	2	104,474	19	10	132,466	18	11	142,435	16	1

EXPORTS.

Countries.	1869.			1870.			1871.			1872.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
United Kingdom	104,448	4	5	114,154	7	6	132,380	4	8	126,232	6	8
British Colonies	12,387	15	7	7,936	3	4	12,923	12	7	12,748	9	2
United States -	135	8	4	320	2	0	3,640	6	3	2,239	12	11
Other foreign countries -	5,000	6	3	4,773	18	0	4,976	12	11	4,206	15	8
Totals - £	121,971	14	7	127,184	10	10	153,920	16	5	145,427	4	5

There appears to be a decrease in the value of exports as compared with the previous year, but in that year it was exceptionally large: 1872 compares favourably with the years 1869 and 1870.

The decrease may be ascribed to the severe drought experienced, which materially affected the sugar crop.

Agriculture.

The following is a Return of the produce of the Colony exported during the years 1869, 1870, 1871 and 1872, with their respective values:—

Produce.	1869.		1870.		1871.		1872.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£ s. d.	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Cocoa -	889	45,018 4 6	1,080	50,406	1,050	53,913	1,051	50,336
Cotton -	59	3,973 0 11	169	7,914	170	7,978	151	6,125
	Gallons.		Gallons.		Gallons.		Gallons.	
Oil (whale)	7,226	845 11 0	11,520	1,296	10,550	1,186	2,325	190
Rum -	131,243	8,204 19 6	70,775	3,538	65,950	6,595	176,991	10,055
	Tons.		Tons.		Tons.		Tons.	
Sugar -	3,254	58,650 3 9	3,880	54,328	5,256	73,596	4,217	65,857
Spices	3	385 17 2	6	555	15	1,360	7	1,126

The cotton and cocoa crop were affected by the drought. The cocoa crop remains apparently stationary. I regret that more attention is not paid to spices, this island being well adapted for the cultivation of nearly all kinds. The establishment of central factories for sugar would be most beneficial to planters, and I earnestly hope that strenuous endeavours will be made by those interested in cane cultivation to obtain it.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The following table shows the convictions for the last four years, there being an increase in 1872 over those of the previous years.

RETURN OF CONVICTIONS.

Years.	Supreme Court.		Magistrates' Court.		Total.	Debtors.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
1869 - -	13	2	115	31	161	29
1870 - -	14	—	140	53	207	6
1871 - -	7	1	106	34	148	17
1872 - -	18	1	180	31	230	29

The committals were for comparatively trifling offences, and none were for anything very serious. There exists, however, a great amount of undiscovered theft of produce, chiefly of cocoa.

General Remarks.

Grenada possesses so many advantages over some of the other Islands in being very healthy (exempt from hurricanes and from severe

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shocks of earthquake), and in having a peaceable and contented peasantry, that it is a matter for grave consideration why its progress is not more rapid: why, when in small or smaller Islands like Nevis, Montserrat, and Dominica, in the Leeward, and St. Vincent and St. Lucia in the Windward group, capitalists are purchasing land, Grenada should appear to possess no attractions, there being no competition for valuable estates in the market.

I am more than ever confirmed in my opinion that the reason is to be found in the constitution not being adapted to the requirements of the Island.

The Legislative Assembly, composed of 26 members, meet but seldom, and, as a rule, one day's sitting, no matter how important are the measures to be discussed, seems to be considered long enough by many representatives, who then hurry back to their own business. Thus matters of moment and interest have been frequently postponed until forgotten, such as the repair of roads and buildings; and legislation on many and varied subjects has not kept pace with the age.

Latterly, however, I am glad to say that there has been some improvement, but it must be continuous and much more marked for the future to meet the requirements of the Colony.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) S. FREELING, Lieut.-Governor.

Governor Rawson, C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

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No. 10.

No. 10.

Governor RAWSON to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Barbad[os],
August 13, 1873.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the Island of Tobago, with Lieut.-Governor Ussher's Report upon it, and his Despatch in original, covering both, in which he explains the cause of the unavoidable delay that has occurred in its transmission.

2. Mr. Ussher states in his Report that he has so little confidence in the correctness of the criminal statistics prepared in the new form, that he does not feel justified in inserting this in the Book of this year. He appears to have been unable, from the cause stated in his Despatch, to check these returns without increasing the delay that has already occurred in forwarding the Blue Book, and he has deemed it preferable to omit them altogether.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) RAWSON W. RAWSON,
Governor.

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Government House, Tobago, August 4, 1873. TOBAGO.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose to your Excellency the Blue Book for the past year, together with my Report thereon.

2. The delay in forwarding it is not attributable to the officers charged with its compilation, as the Colonial Secretary delivered it to me at the end of May, but to my severe indisposition during the whole of June and part of July.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) H. T. USSHER,
Lieut.-Governor.

His Excellency Governor Rawson, C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenue for the year 1872 amounted to 14,047*l.* 6*s.* 5½*d.*

2. These figures, however, include a nominal cash balance of 2,348*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*, brought forward from 1871, from which must be deducted the arrears of expenditure for the same year, amounting to 651*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* This will have left a net cash balance to the credit of the Colony, on the 1st January, 1872, of 1,696*l.* 17*s.* 8½*d.*

3. The net revenue for 1872 will therefore prove to be 11,698*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*, a marked decrease upon that of 1871. This fact is to be attributed to a considerable decrease in certain imports of an unusual nature, more particularly in machinery and mill stores, &c. A new valuation roll, by which the estate and house tax was diminished, and a decrease in the licences, will account for the rest. The diminution in the licences is owing to their imperfect collection, especially in the matter of horses.

4. The expenditure in 1872 shows an increase of over 3,000*l.* in excess of that of 1871. This is principally attributable to the expenditure upon two new public works, and to an increase under the head of "Roads." A contribution of 200*l.* was also made to the sufferers by the hurricane in the Leeward Islands.

5. Generally speaking, the expenditure for 1872 appears to me to have been too lavish, taking into account the fact that the revenues of the two preceding years were attributable to exceptional causes, and that a continuance of such an income could not be reasonably anticipated. A succession of droughts will tend still more to lower the revenue, especially for the current year (1873), when a serious deficiency will have to be met, and when a provident margin left from the superfluity of 1872 and 1871 would have been of great assistance.

6. On the subject of immigration there is nothing to be remarked, the only expense having been that of collection. The general fund, amounting now to a little over 3,000*l.*, is in the hands of the Colonial Bank at Barbados.

Public Debt.

7. There was no public debt in 1872.

Public Works.

8. A jetty has been built in Scarborough Bay, extending some

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distance into the sea, at a cost of 1,200*l.* This does not include the expense of a new crane, 275*l.*

9. I am of opinion that the work is not satisfactory, as I hear complaints from the merchants that the length does not run into sufficiently deep water for droghers to unload alongside; it appears, therefore, that a considerable part of it is wasted, and the new crane at the extreme end is comparatively unused. It will, however, be practicable at some future period to lengthen it, and thus enable the merchants to bring their small craft alongside.

10. The hospital has been commenced upon too large a scale, and will be unsuited to the requirements of so small a place as Scarborough, unless it should be also used as an asylum. In my opinion, 2,500*l.* will scarcely cover the expenditure; and other expenses of fencing, &c., will raise it to a large amount. The only thing temporarily to be done was to render the building weatherproof by shingling it; and the work must remain until the funds of the island justify the Executive in completing it.

11. A smaller hospital, for which several public buildings might have been repaired and utilized, would have sufficed for the present wants of the island; for the number of properly qualified patients would be small were those only to be admitted whose means and cases were of a nature to justify their reception. There are plenty of chronic cases of skin and scrofulous diseases amongst the pauper classes, who receive relief in another manner; but these are not fair cases for reception into a public hospital.

12. The road system is defective in the extreme; and the public roads, with one or two scarce exceptions, are not in a creditable condition. Under a more concentrated and responsible supervision, the sum yearly voted by the Assembly should be ample for all purposes. As it is, the Executive is comparatively powerless, and cannot interfere.

Legislation.

13. The Acts and Proclamations of last year present but little of importance. The Legislature passed an Act to grant a subsidy to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company; but the opportunity having gone by, through some local hesitation and delay, the Company have taken no steps to supply telegraphic communication. Tobago, I believe, stands alone in the West Indies in this respect; and it is a matter for regret.

Political Franchise.

14. The distribution of the franchise is very unequal, the united parishes of St. Mary, St. Paul, and St. John not possessing as many electors as the single parishes of St. Andrew and of St. David, or of the town of Scarborough. By an extension of the franchise in 1870 to 5*l.* holders, the voters would probably be increased at a new election. Hitherto, as can be seen by a reference to former Reports, but little interest has been displayed by voters; but I am of opinion that in the case of a new general election more activity will be shown. The present House of Assembly has been ten years in Session. There were no changes in the "personnel" of either House during the year 1872.

Civil Establishments.

15. The principal change in the official staff of the Colony has been the appointment of myself as Lieutenant-Governor, in succession to Mr. C. H. Kortright, whose term of office had expired, and who left the Colony in September.

16. The Rev. F. Giolma was appointed to the living of St. Patrick and St. David, vacant by the death of the Rev. Mr. Crosby; but the Secretary of State declined to confirm the nomination, in view of the probable introduction of a change in the Ecclesiastical arrangements of this Island.

Population.

17. The natural increase of the population, considering the want of medical officers, and the mortality among infants, is comparatively satisfactory. I regret that there are many of the poorer classes out of reach of medical help, both from the distances at which they reside, and from their inability to pay the ordinary, but to them very heavy, fees. Up to the end of 1872 there were but two qualified medical officers in the Island; although I am glad to say that this is no longer the case. The consequence is that the poorer classes fall into the hands of ignorant natives professing a knowledge of medicine, and I am convinced that considerable mischief arises from this cause. It is difficult to deal with the subject, the natives having great confidence in this class of impostors, who not uncommonly add a knowledge and practice of "Obeah" to their manifold accomplishments. Individuals of the latter stamp are peculiarly difficult to convict ("Obeah" being punishable by law) as the poorer and more ignorant negroes will never give evidence against them, so great is their dread of them.

18. A system of parochial medical relief, administered by young and energetic men, will do more to eradicate such practices than any penal legislation could hope to effect.

Miscellaneous Returns.

19. Some of the houses returned as inhabited are in a semi-ruinous condition.

20. I observe with satisfaction a small but increasing class of independent negro householders, living in good tenements and cultivating provision grounds. It is to be hoped that this class will continue to increase. In the case of the introduction of a Central Factory, they would plant canes, and contribute sensibly to the agricultural prosperity of the Island. It is worthy of note that a large proportion of the lower classes are in possession of one, and sometimes of two or more, horses.

Ecclesiastical.

21. The Rev. F. Giolma succeeded to the rectory of St. Patrick and St. David, vacant by the death of the Rev. Mr. Crosby; but he was not confirmed in his benefice.

22. The Bill for disestablishing the English Church, and re-endowing its members concurrently with those of other Christian denominations was introduced into the House during the October Session. It has since then passed the Legislature, and has been forwarded for Her Majesty's gracious confirmation.

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23. No additional expense has been saddled upon the Colony by this measure. It provides for an equal distribution of the grant hitherto allowed (1,060*l.* per annum) among the Anglicans, Moravians, and Wesleyan Methodists; the calculation being based upon their respective numerical strength. It also provides that, in consideration of this grant, an adequate number of properly qualified ministers shall be appointed; failing which, certain deductions will be made.

24. Should this Bill be confirmed, it will come into operation on the 1st of January, 1874.

25. The Church buildings of the Anglican denomination are all in bad repair, which appears to be partly the result of a complete dependence hitherto on State aid, and of mismanagement in the application of funds raised by general subscription among its members.

26. It is the intention of the Government not to oppose any moderate grant (consistently with the state of Colonial funds) to aid that body in placing their places of worship in a better condition; and considering that the larger proportion of the population, more than nine thousand, are returned as belonging to the English Church, it is reasonable to expect that, by the exercise of energy on the part of its ministers, adequate funds will be raised from among its members to enable it to maintain its position on an equal footing with other denominations.

Education.

27. The subject of education has not hitherto received the attention it demands from the Legislature. The practice has been to grant to each denomination the sum of 100*l.* yearly; but no account was ever taken of the manner in which the sum was expended, nor was any regular supervision exercised by Government.

28. Lieutenant-Governor Kortright, however, in the commencement of 1872, appointed a gentleman to visit the schools, and examine carefully into their system and working. This gentleman's report was submitted to me some time since, and he appears to have given the subject considerable attention. He recommends the application of the Barbados system, and payment by results. The report was furnished to your Excellency some months since, and I am glad to be enabled to concur with Mr. Elliott in most of his suggestions.

29. An extra grant from unexpended funds was made to the three religious denominations last year, for the purchase of books, maps, &c., and I trust to see the whole subject dealt with shortly by the Legislature in an equitable manner.

Imports and Exports.

30. These figures require but little comment. They show a decrease over those of 1871.

31. This decrease is attributable to bad seasons, already referred to; and in the case of the imports, to a diminution in certain classes of goods of an unusual character, which had raised the ordinary imports for the two preceding years.

32. These statistics must not be taken as a gauge of the capabilities of this Colony; with capital and energy its resources are great, and its fertility boundless.

Shipping.

33. Under this head there is little to be said. The carrying trade with the United Kingdom may be said to be in the hands of one or two merchants, having large stakes in the island; and it will be observed that the number of ships, *viz.* 18, is identical with that of 1871. This causes freights to be very high, the freight for sugar from Tobago being generally 3*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., whereas in Trinidad, a neighbouring island, and other West Indian colonies, 2*s.* 6*d.* and 2*s.* are not unusual, I am told; and I am assured that 1*s.* 9*d.* has not been unknown. The advantage to the merchant planter, combining his speculation in sugar estates with a private fleet of his own, and the disadvantage to small producers, unable to ship except at high prices, will be tolerably apparent. There is little or no competition, and in the absence of this incentive to progress the energy of the Colony must languish, and the small or embarrassed planter, struggling against his difficulties, be discouraged.

34. The island has a few small coasting vessels, which do an inconsiderable trade with the other islands; but are useful in many ways, especially in filling up the larger vessels unable to enter the numerous small bays and inlets of shallow draught, which abut on the sugar estates. They also form a constant and convenient method of communication with Barbados.

35. The mail steamers call at Scarborough, en route for Demerara, and on their return, twice a month. Formerly they called at Plymouth, which was productive of great inconvenience to passengers.

Agriculture.

36. The population of Tobago is considerably out of proportion to the area of the island; and assuming even the figures given as cultivated acreage attached to dwelling-houses to be correct (which I do not for practical statistics), it will be seen that a large area of valuable and fertile land is almost in a primitive state. Large tracts, which in former days were undoubtedly the site of well-worked estates, are covered with forest. Along the main ridge of the island fine timber abounds in profusion.

37. In the case of the estates owned and occupied by planters, a comparatively small proportion thereof is cultivated. I should not estimate the total cultivation of the island, including provision grounds, at more than 4,500 acres. A succession of droughts has of late years tended to reduce cultivation considerably, especially in Sandy Point, one of the best districts of the island; a level plain of several square miles, once rich and fertile, but now in a worse condition than any other part of the Colony.

38. Sugar of course forms the staple of cultivation and export. The dry seasons to which I have alluded have not been without a serious effect upon this branch of agriculture; and I fear that the planters' losses have been considerable. Resident proprietors occupy a portion of the estates, but do not appear in all cases to have the means to work them fairly; the other estates are mostly worked by agents and managers representing mercantile firms. The prevalence of the Metayer system in some parts of the island has been pro-

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ductive of litigation to a considerable extent, and I would prefer to see the land rented or owned (and consequently better cultivated) in small lots, by the negroes. With the establishment of central factories, great results would follow, both to the planter and the negro, from such a system. The agriculturist would no longer require to be, as he now must be, an engineer and a chemist in addition to his other qualifications.

39. I entertain strong hopes of seeing the central system introduced within a few years, and it would be well worth the attention of the Legislature to devise some means of holding out inducement to a company to establish the system. The pecuniary difficulties under which the Colony is unfortunately labouring throw considerable obstacles in the way of such a course, and the island will have to depend principally upon private enterprise for the attainment of this object.

40. Although the wages of labourers appear low in comparison with other islands, it must not be forgotten that the cost of living is cheaper in proportion; and on one or two estates, which appear to be as well managed as the present system will permit, the labourer and his family are well lodged and well treated. Each labourer is granted a provision ground for his own cultivation, in addition to his wages; and he has, by living on the estate, other advantages. He also receives medical aid at a low rate. This is, however, not the rule throughout.

41. Skilled labour is expensive, and augments the cost of public works considerably.

42. The class of small negro householders before referred to, appear to be well to do, and, as I have before observed, many of them keep horses. I believe that their present easy mode of life is productive of great laziness, and I may say, generally speaking, if the negroes would work fairly, there would not be much immediate want of immigration, until cultivation were more extended.

43. Cocoa is grown, but in small quantities; although it has been attempted on a larger scale, it appears to have failed. I believe that it is much attacked by a destructive beetle. Coffee, which is grown here in small quantities, is of good quality.

44. Cocoa-nuts form a considerable article of export, and I am surprised that they are not more extensively planted, as their culture requires but a tithe of the labour required for canes, and they are not necessarily subjected to any manufacturing process, but simply laded on board the vessel after being picked, without further trouble.

45. Yams, sweet potatoes, and most descriptions of tropical vegetables and fruit grow in great profusion, and require a minimum of cultivation and labour; while many English vegetables, as peas, cabbages, brocoli, vegetable marrow, watercress, &c., thrive well.

Criminal Statistics.

46. The returns furnished this year have appeared to me so unreliable that I have not ventured to forward them. On inquiry I find that there has been a steady increase during the last four years in petty crimes; larceny, assaults, and smaller offences appearing to constitute the body of them. This I believe is attributable to the

decline of agriculture in some parts of the island, and to the droughts under which the Colony has suffered, causing, on account of scarcity of food, the negroes to commit petty thefts, both in town, and in sugar and other plantations. Under the head of "prædial larceny," in proof of this statement, the offences in 1869, numbering 68, increased in 1872, to 152. It is to be regretted that among other offences, (under summary convictions) many cases appear under the "Masters and Servants' Acts."

47. Of serious offences I am glad to say we have but few. An occasional case of arson or burglary, or of cutting and wounding, comprises most of our indictments in superior courts.

48. As is the case, I presume, in most sugar-growing colonies, the smaller class of offences, especially prædial larceny, appears to be punished by fine or deduction from wages. It is, doubtless, a convenience to the planter to keep the offender at work upon his land, rather than lose his services by imprisonment; but the system is radically wrong, and cannot act as a deterrent to crime. It is undoubtedly one of the causes of its increase.

Gaols.

49. The Scarborough gaol, the only one in the island at present in use, is in a healthy situation, some 400 feet above the sea. It was formerly the Military Hospital, and since its conversion into a prison has received certain additions and alterations. It is barely adequate for the requirements of the Colony, and at times is too crowded, but I am bound to admit that the Inspector of Police, under whose charge it is, excercises a careful supervision, and that he does what he can with the material at his command.

50. The prison offences are few, and the diet sufficient. I caused the introduction of an additional rule, empowering the medical officer to alter and improve the diet as regards prisoners of delicate health, or foreigners.

51. The medical officer and minister appear to visit regularly.

52. There is no account of stores or food kept at the gaol, and waste and negligence, entailing unnecessary expense, must be the result of the want of system.

Charitable Institutions.

53. The administration of pauper relief, is conducted without system, and although the Legislature liberally makes an annual grant on this head, the greater part of it is not properly accounted for. No law exists upon the subject, and the fund is actually managed by one or two irresponsible gentlemen. Out-door relief has been customarily given to a great extent, many of the recipients being the old "stock" pauper of African colonies, with a sore foot or leg, in most cases a valuable property to the owner, who does not work, and receives a comfortable little pension from a long list of patrons, commencing with the treasury chest of the island. It is not to be wondered at that the possessor of this source of income objects to any attempts to cure him, on the part of the surgeon, and that when even the doctor has insisted on examining and prescribing for his malady, he should find means to neutralize the latter's care and

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attention. A few years ago the grant for poor relief amounted to 150*l.* It has reached 400*l.* latterly in the estimates, and nearly 600*l.* in actual expenditure.

General Remarks.

54. There are many causes which retard the progress of this fertile island. To some of them I can only refer, as a detailed analysis of them would be out of place in this Report.

55. One of the principal obstructions to progress is the present form of Government. Its machinery would doubtless be well adapted to a colony like Victoria or the Cape, but its adaptation to the conditions of Tobago, an island of ninety square miles in extent, and numbering a population of a little over 17,000 souls, is doubtful in the extreme.

56. One of its results has been the creation of a multiplicity of petty offices, with salaries attached of the lowest class, rendering it next to impossible to obtain for the due performance of the duties thereof properly qualified and responsible officers, but at the same time sufficing to induce a certain class to look forward to obtaining them, and to avoid being obliged to betake themselves to more profitable, but more undignified pursuits, entailing upon them the necessity of hard work.

57. The administration of justice is equally complicated and unnecessary.

58. One of the objections to Tobago, which appears to have taken a tolerably firm hold of the public mind in the West Indies, is its reputed unhealthiness. As far as Barbadian immigrants are concerned, it certainly appears that upon their first arrival they suffer considerably from ague and fever, from which however they are soon said to recover, and then become most valuable labourers, being preferred to the Tobago native for cane planting. As regards the white and native population, they appear to present a fair average of health, especially the whites, of whom there are many examples to be quoted at this moment of lengthened residence in the Colony, without injury to health.

59. Another cause retarding development is the undoubted tenuity of population in proportion to the area of the Colony, but the effect of this with regard to labour has been exaggerated, and during the late dry weather, so far from any lack of labour being experienced, it became necessary on many estates to dispense with it. Moreover, the labourers themselves are far from being steady workers, and are extremely fond of taking "off days." I am therefore inclined to believe that the immediate want of immigration is not so pressing as has been represented; and I am further of opinion, for the present, that those planters who treat their people well, and pay them fairly, will rarely suffer for the want of labour. Nevertheless in the case of the introduction of fresh capital, and of a consequent extension of culture, a demand for additional labour must arise, and will have to be met by increased wages, and by additional inducements to immigrants from neighbouring colonies.

60. It is satisfactory to note that two of the most beautiful and productive estates in the island have been purchased by a Barbadian

proprietor, and I look with confidence to the result, as it may be hoped that a better standard and system of planting and management may be introduced; and that Mr. Pile may, if successful, be followed by others, whose means, perhaps inadequate to the purchase of Barbados land, would be well adapted to enterprise in Tobago, where fine estates may be purchased for prices ranging from 2,000*l.* to 6,000*l.* Similar properties in Barbados would be worth probably ten times that amount.

61. Speaking generally, and with but small exception, a species of lethargy has been for years noticeable in this island. After the remarks which I have ventured to make, and taking further into account the utter want of capital and legitimate competition in all branches of commerce and industry, together with the comparative ease of living afforded the labouring class, it is scarcely to be wondered at.

62. I sincerely trust that this state of things is coming to an end; and it will be easy for the Legislature, by wise and progressive changes and ameliorations, to cause Tobago to rise, and take its proper place among the sister islands.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) H. T. USSHER, Lieut.-Governor.

ST. LUCIA.

No. 11.

Governor RAWSON to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

(Received October 20, 1873.)
(Forwarded October 23, 1873.)

SIR, Government Office, St. Lucia, October 2, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency herewith, in duplicate, the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1872, together with a short Report, which, in the absence from the Island of his Honour Mr. Des Vœux, I beg to submit with it.

1. *Taxes, Duties, &c.*

2. Under the Annual Tax Ordinance, 1872, which came into operation on the 1st of January, the import duties were increased by the addition of 10 per cent. on cigars and snuff, 2*d.* per pound on all other tobacco, and 1½ per cent. on all articles paying an ad valorem duty of 5 per cent. under the Import Duty Ordinance of 1857; and the excise duties by the addition of 6*d.* per gallon on rum, the produce of and consumed in the Colony: with these exceptions the taxes and duties were the same as in the previous year.

2. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

3. The total amount of "General Revenue" for the year was 21,052*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, and the total amount of expenditure defrayed out of "General Revenue" was 17,842*l.* 17*s.*

ST. LUCIA.

4. The following Tables exhibit the revenue and expenditure in each of the last three years:—

REVENUE.

	£
1870	15,867
1871	18,307
1872	21,052

EXPENDITURE.

	£
1870	14,602
1871	16,980
1872	17,842

5. The surplus "General Revenue" in deposit in the Colonial Bank and in current account at the close of the year was 9,063*l.*

3. *Local Revenues.*

6. The corporation of Castries ceased to exist on the 4th of May, and the management of the affairs of the town devolved, under the Ordinance of the 6th December, 1871, No. 16, on a board composed of the Governor and five members appointed by him, styled the "Castries Town Board."

7. The amount of revenue raised in 1872 on account of the several local or special funds was as follows:—

	£
Immigration Fund	2,349
Road Fund	2,375
Education Fund	1,220
Castries Harbour Dredge Fund	188
Casual Revenue of the Crown	214
Castries Town Fund	848
Revenue Officers' Reward Fund	6
Making a total of	£7,200

8. The amount of expenditure was:—

	£
On account of Immigration	1,216
„ „ Roads and Bridges	1,811
„ „ Education	990
„ „ Harbour Dredge	79
„ „ Town of Castries	508
Making a total of	£4,604

9. The amount to the credit of the special funds in current and deposit accounts at the close of the year was 6,562*l.*

4. *Public Debt.*

10. The public debt of the Colony, comprised of the loans guaranteed under the Imperial Act, 11 & 12 Vict. chap. 130, was on the 31st December, 1872, 18,000*l.*, but on the 1st of January, 1873,

3,000*l.* of the amount was paid off. A sinking fund is accumulating sufficient for the payment of the remaining sum of 15,000*l.*, on the 30th June, 1880, on which day the loan is redeemable. The loan bears interest at 4 per. cent., the amount to meet which is regularly remitted.

5. *Legislation.*

11. Seven Ordinances were passed during the year, namely:—

No. 1. To sanction certain expenditure incurred in the year 1871 in excess of the estimates for that year.

2. For the repression of Obeah and other kindred practices.

3. For fixing rates and duties to be raised for the public service after the 1st day of January, 1873, and for appropriating the same.

4. To prevent the erection of inflammable houses in the towns and villages of the Island.

5. To impose a tax upon the rental of houses and lots of land in certain towns and villages of the Island, and to appropriate the same to the purposes of local improvement.

6. To amend the Town Wardens' Ordinance, 1844.

7. To exempt the Consolidated Immigration Ordinance, 1865, from the operation of the Masters and Servants' Ordinance, 1871.

6. *Population.*

12. The returns of the census taken in 1871 show the population of the Island to have been as follows:—15,534 males and 16,078 females, making a total of 31,610 souls, which, as compared with the census taken in 1861, shows an increase in the ten years of 2,414 males and 2,491 females—total increase, 4,905. The population was distributed over the Island in the following proportions—1st district, 12,999; 2nd district, 12,330; and 3rd district, 6,281.

13. By the return of the Registrar-Goneral of births and deaths, the number of births in 1872 was 1,511, and the number of deaths 880, showing an excess of births over deaths of 631, which, added to the numbers given by the census of 1871, would make the population of the Island on the 31st December, 1872, 32,241.

7. *Ecclesiastical.*

14. The question of ecclesiastical endowments, which created considerable anxiety in some of the colonies, has been settled here without much difficulty; and judging from the absence of any opposition on the part of the members of the Roman Catholic communion, the predominant religion in the Colony either in the Legislature or out of doors, to their entire satisfaction.

15. The Government has disposed of the matter by making an addition to the salary of the Curé of Castries, who is also Vicaire Forain, of 100*l.* a year, and giving him an assistant with a salary of 100*l.* a year. The salaries of the Protestant ministers remaining the same as before.

16. The grants to the two denominations as now fixed are 1,100*l.* to the Roman Catholics, and 400*l.* to the Protestants.

8. *Education.*

17. The system of education, the control of the schools, and the apportionment of the public funds in aid of education remain the same as in 1871.

18. The returns of the Mico charity schools show the number of pupils on the rolls during the year at the ten schools of the charity to have been 1,048 males and 413 females, making a total of 1,461 scholars. The cost of maintaining these schools was 1,595*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, of which sum 550*l.* was contributed by the Colony, and 1,045*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* was provided by the charity.

19. The number of pupils on the rolls at the four Roman Catholic schools was 286 males and 615 females, making a total of 901 scholars. The cost of these schools was 526*l.*, paid altogether from public funds.

20. The Sisters of St. Joseph continue to keep a school for girls. The number of scholars returned was 56.

21. The grammar school kept by the Rev. Mr. Moudens has been closed.

9. *Trade.*

22. The following comparative Tables exhibit the value of imports and exports during the three years ending with 1872.

IMPORTS.

	£
1870	106,285
1871	121,384
1872	151,194

The value of imports in 1869 was 90,964*l.*

EXPORTS.

	£
1870	147,171
1871	171,001
1872	184,622

The value of exports in 1869 was 118,164*l.*

23. The following summary shows the different countries from which the importations took place, and to which the exportations were made in 1872.

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
United Kingdom	44,543	173,121
British Possessions	51,886	3,890
France	21,225	375
French Colonies	9,174	7,210
United States	22,763	——
Other foreign places	1,573	26

24. It is proper to remark that a large portion of the articles classed as imports from France are British manufactured goods, which are taken over to St. Nazaire and brought out to this Colony in the French mail steamers, the cost for freight even in this circuitous way bring less than that charged by the Royal Mail steamers.

10. *Agriculture and Manufacture.*

25. No reliable information has yet been obtained as to the quantity of land under cultivation; there can be no doubt, however, but that it has been considerably increased during the year.

26. Some of the estates have changed hands, and as the new owners are men of means and enterprise, there is good reason to expect that the change will be beneficial to the Colony.

27. The sugar crop of 1872 was the largest ever made in the Colony. It reached 11,024 hogsheads. The following Table shows the quantity of produce shipped in the last three years.

Sugar, lbs. - -	12,865,103	12,918,960	13,510,850
Molasses, galls. -	153,000	234,800	257,015
Rum - - -	2,461	9,890	2,723
Cocoa - - -	257,543	196,696	246,809

11. *General Remarks.*

28. The health of the inhabitants during the year was good. The Island providentially escaped that dreadful disease small-pox, which for nearly twelve months raged with great violence in the not distant Colony of Trinidad, and which there was then much reason to fear could not be kept from our shores.

29. The reward first offered in 1870 for the destruction of poisonous snakes is continued to be paid. The annual vote for the purpose is 300*l*., but the amount expended in 1872 was 465*l*.

30. It is interesting to follow the experiment being made for the destruction of these venomous reptiles. It cannot be alleged positively that the diminution in the number of deaths from serpents' bites has been caused by the measure, but the following statement will go far to lead to that conclusion.

31. The number of deaths in each of the four years ending with 1872 was as follows:—

1869	1870	1871	1872
22	16	9	6

32. The year 1869 is chosen as the first for comparison, as it was not until that year that any record was kept of the causes of death.

33. Viewed agriculturally, commercially, or financially, the year 1872 has been the most prosperous on record in the annals of the Colony, and it is gratifying to observe by the several statements given above that the prosperity for many years past has been steadily progressive, inducing to the hope of similar results in future years.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) MACNAMARA DIX,

Administrator of the Government.

His Excellency Rawson W. Rawson, Esq., C.B.,

Governor-in-Chief, &c., &c.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

No. 12.

No. 12.

Governor IRVING to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Leeward Islands, Antigua,
11th October, 1873.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Books of Antigua, St. Kitts, Dominica, Nevis, and Montserrat for 1872, with a Report thereon by the Colonial Secretary.

The Blue Book of the Virgin Islands has not yet been received.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY T. IRVING,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
6th October, 1873.

SIR,

I have the honour to report for your Excellency's information on the statistical and other annual returns, comprising the Blue Books of the several Presidencies forming the Colony of the Leeward Islands.

2. The new form of Government, under which the Islands of Antigua, St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat, the Virgin Islands, and Dominica were constituted, under the Imperial Act, 34 & 35 Vict. cap. 107, a single Colony, was inaugurated on the 30th March, 1872. Before the passing of the Imperial Act the Leeward Islands were placed under one Governor-in-Chief, but each Island had a separate and independent Legislature, consisting of a Lieutenant-Governor or President, and a single Chamber, styled in some the Legislative Council, and in others the Legislative Assembly. In Montserrat and the Virgin Islands the Council is composed entirely of members appointed by the Crown. In Antigua, St. Kitts, Nevis, and Dominica the Chamber is composed of an equal number of nominated and elected members. The powers of these local Legislatures have not been abrogated by the change in the constitution, but the concurrent and controlling power of legislating on certain important subjects has been conferred on the General Legislative Council of the Leeward Islands.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. Each Presidency continues to retain a separate treasury and revenue department. There are no less than five treasurers in the Colony, with salaries from 300*l.* to 500*l.* each, besides a heavy staff of clerks in each Presidency. The total cost of collecting the revenue of the Colony amounts to 5,684*l.* per annum.

4. The revenue and expenditure of 1872 was as follows:—

	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Antigua - - -	38,817	6	2	39,870	5	9
St. Kitts - - -	26,364	6	0	32,420	7	8
Montserrat - -	4,477	3	11	4,835	15	8
Nevis - - -	7,776	1	4	10,477	7	10
Dominica - -	18,137	2	7	17,987	18	5
Virgin Islands - -	1,685	14	5	1,631	6	8
	£97,257	14	5	£107,223	2	0

5. *Public Debt.*

	£	s.	d.
Antigua - - - - - -	53,802	0	0
St. Kitts - - - - - -	9,200	0	0
Montserrat - - - - -	505	18	0
Dominica - - - - - - -	5,622	6	8

6. *Militia.*

Antigua and St. Kitts are the only Presidencies which maintain a Militia force.

Antigua, cavalry, 52 men; artillery, 65 men, 4 guns.

St. Kitts, cavalry and horse artillery, 83 men, 2 guns.

The cavalry corps of Antigua and St. Kitts are in a fair state of efficiency.

Police.

7. The police forces are as follows:—

	Officers.	Men.	Cost.		
			£	s.	d.
Antigua - - -	2	66	4,188	12	4
St. Kitts - - -	1	40	2,143	9	10
Nevis - - - -	—	15	530	6	10
Montserrat - - -	—	8	341	12	4
Dominica - - -	1	26	1,306	12	6
Virgin Islands - -	—	2	60	0	0
	4	157	8,570	13	10

Legislation.

8. The General Legislative Council of the Leeward Islands is composed of a President appointed by the Crown, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, a nominated member for each Presidency, and ten members elected by the representative portion of the local Councils. Its first session was held at Antigua in May, 1872, when 15 Acts were passed.

No. 1. An Act to regulate the manner in which Bills passed by the General Legislative Council of this Colony shall be recorded and preserved.

No. 2. An Act for shortening the language to be used in the Acts of this Colony.

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No. 3. An Act for the more secure custody of lunatics.

No. 4. An Act to establish one uniform system of weights and measures.

No. 5. An Act to establish one uniform law as to wills.

No. 6. An Act to abolish the laws relating to usury.

No. 7. An Act to define the duties and fix the salaries of certain officers of the general Government of the Leeward Islands.

No. 8. An Act to establish one uniform law of inheritance.

No. 9. An Act to encourage and promote the establishment of communication by means of the electric telegraph between this Colony, the other West India Colonies, and the continents of Europe and America.

No. 10. An Act to enable aliens to hold land.

No. 11. An Act to enable the police and other protective forces of the several Presidencies to act throughout the Colony.

No. 12. An Act to abolish grand juries.

No. 13. An Act to simplify the law relating to real property.

No. 14. An Act to establish one uniform law relative to juries.

No. 15. An Act to establish a supreme court and to define its jurisdiction.

Civil Establishment.

9. The present civil establishment of the Colony is as follows:—

Colonial Secretary	- - - £800	
Attorney-General	- - - - 800	
Auditor-General	- - - - 800	
		——£2,400

By the creation of the three above offices the corresponding offices are abolished in the Presidencies, viz.:—

Antigua—

Colonial Secretary	- - - £600	
Attorney-General	- - - - 400	
Auditor-General	- - - - 400	
		——£1,400
Present expense:—		
$\frac{5}{16}$ths of 2,400*l.*, cost of Federal Establishment	- - - - 750	
Island Secretary	- - - - 350	
	——	1,100
Saving to Antigua	- - -	£300

St. Kitts—

Colonial Secretary	- - - £400	
Attorney-General	- - - - 300	
Auditor-General	- - - - 300	
		——£1,000
$\frac{2}{16}$ths of 2,400*l.*	- - - - 600	600
Saving to St. Kitts	- - -	£400

Dominica—

Colonial Secretary	£300
$\frac{3}{16}$ths of 2,400*l.*	450
Loss to Dominica	£150

Nevis—

Colonial Secretary	£165	
Solicitor-General	150	
Police Magistrate	150	
		£465
$\frac{3}{16}$ths of 2,400*l.*		300
Saving to Nevis		£165

Montserrat—

Puisne Justice	£300	
Attorney-General	80	
		£380
$\frac{1}{16}$th of the 2,400*l.*		150
Saving to Montserrat		£230

Virgin Islands—

Colonial Secretary	£300
$\frac{1}{16}$th of 2,400*l.*	150
Saving to Virgin Islands	£150

10. The judicial establishment of the Colony has not yet been created. The pay of the judges will amount in the aggregate to 3,700*l.* per annum. The present cost of this branch of the service is:—

Antigua	£1,300
St. Kitts	850
Nevis	380
Dominica	650
Montserrat	150
	£3,330

11. The ecclesiastical establishment in 1872 consisted of the Bishop of Antigua, six rectors in Antigua, one of them being the archdeacon (unpaid); seven rectors in St. Kitts, one of them being the archdeacon, receiving an additional salary as such of 250*l.*, paid from imperial funds; three rectors in Nevis; two rectors in Montserrat; making a total of 19 clergymen of the Church of England paid from public funds. The total cost of the ecclesiastical establishment was 8,681*l.*, being 2,250*l.* from the imperial treasury, and 6,431*l.* from the local treasuries. This includes 105*l.* per annum paid to a Wesleyan minister in Montserrat, and 133*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum paid to the Moravian Mission at Antigua.

12. Complete religious equality has been established in Dominica

and the Virgin Islands by the abolition of the salaries formerly paid to the Church of England clergymen in those Presidencies.

13. *Population* at the Census of 1871:—

Antigua, including Barbuda	35,157
St. Kitts, including Anguilla	30,942
Nevis	11,680
Montserrat	8,693
Dominica	27,178
Virgin Islands	6,651
	120,301

Imports.

14. The value of the imports during the last three years was:—

	1870.	1871.	1872.
	£	£	£
Antigua	164,178	175,740	200,757
St. Kitts	196,050	211,369	187,193
Nevis	54,286	25,005	49,954
Montserrat	23,043	27,017	27,677
Dominica	60,277	61,970	68,884
Virgin Islands	4,425	4,184	No return received.

15. *Exports.*

	1870.	1871.	1872.
	£	£	£
Antigua	234,011	247,630	153,195
St. Kitts	274,079	283,284	145,663
Nevis	64,119	76,338	35,937
Montserrat	29,141	37,069	29,736
Dominica	62,246	54,957	80,665
Virgin Islands	5,460	6,601	No return received.

16. The quantity of sugar shipped from each Presidency was:—

	1870.	1871.	1872.
Antigua	12,674 hhds.	13,261 hhds.	7,735 hhds.
St. Kitts	10,439 tons = 12,177 hhds.	11,362 tons = 13,255 hhds.	5,525 tons = 6,446 hhds.
Nevis	—	3,518 tons = 4,104 hhds.	1,682 tons = 1,962 hhds.
Montserrat	1,879 hhds.	1,891 „	1,541 „
Dominica	3,660 tons = 4,270 hhds.	3,311 tons = 3,863 hhds.	3,071 tons = 3,583 hhds.

17. I annex the Report of Mr. Berridge, the late Acting President of St. Kitts, on the Blue Book of that Island.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWIN BAYNES,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Governor Irving,
&c. &c. &c.

ST. CHRISTOPHER.—REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1872.

Finance.

There have been no alterations in or additions to the laws affecting the sources of revenue, but from the hurricane disaster in 1871, and consequent reduction of the crop of 1872 to one half of the quantity exported in 1871, it was apprehended there would be a serious diminution of income. The direct sugar taxes did exhibit the expected loss, but fortunately the other sources of revenue were not affected disadvantageously, and the total amount received was 26,364*l.* The estimated income had been 24,283*l.*, so that there was, notwithstanding the partial failure of one source of income, a financial surplus as usual; 900*l.* of which, however, arose from an unexpected return of a loan from the building fund.

The expenditure of the Island has been increased by an additional provision for the sick and destitute poor, amounting to 1,570*l.*, sorely needed, making the contribution from the public purse for this purpose now nearly 4,000*l.* Absenteeism being the rule, the class largely contributing to charities elsewhere is not within reach, and thus it becomes equitable as well as necessary to apply the public funds, to which absent proprietors do contribute, to a greater extent to the relief of the unfortunate among the population engaged in producing the Island wealth, a large proportion of which goes into the pockets of non-residents. Contributions to hospitals are unknown. It is right, however, to say that the absent proprietary body never raise any objection to such an application of taxation. There has also been an outlay of 800*l.* added to the Civil List to provide for the President, thus relieving the imperial exchequer of 1,300*l.* hitherto paid from it to the Lieutenant-Governor. No expense whatever is now incurred by Great Britain on account of this Island for the maintenance of its civil or military establishments.

Public Works.

Considerable progress has been made in the important works constructing to bring water from the East River in St. Thomas' parish to the service reservoir in St. George's, for the supply of the town. The large weir in the mountain, and the reservoir and valve house in St. George, have been nearly completed; the pipes placed along the difficult, and in some places nearly inaccessible track, 4½ miles in length; and the net-work of pipes throughout the streets of Basseterre laid deeply in the ground, and the necessary hydrants built. At the end of November, however, the Island was unfortunate enough to lose the efficient Surveyor of Works, under whose personal superintendence the whole work had proceeded, who died of heart disease; and this loss will prevent any material progress being made until an officer of similar qualifications and professional experience can be appointed. The estimated cost of the undertaking was 15,000*l.*, of which 11,457*l.* have been expended.

Hospitals and Health.

Improvidence, the destruction of many resources in the shape of food-bearing trees (bread fruit, avocado pears, &c.), and of sheltering

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huts by the hurricane of 1871, and the diminution of nearly one-half the usual wages of the labouring class for six months of the year, owing to the reduction in the sugar crop, combined to bring to the surface the sick and destitute among the population to a degree far exceeding that of former years. The cases were so numerous that it became necessary to commit as vagrants some so as to obtain for them the shelter of the gaol and the succour of its medical arrangements, and when the limit of this relief was reached there were still left cases in open yards and streets without relief at all. Under these circumstances a supplemental hospital was improvised at Basseterre, a new one for about twenty beds, established at Sandy Point, and the clauses of the Cunningham Hospital Act (No. 12 of 1867), authorizing in special cases out-door relief, brought into operation. These measures mitigated the distress, and it is hoped are adequate to the extent of the evil for the present time; but when sickness comes destitution immediately follows in so great a proportion of the sick population that the subject of their condition presses for serious consideration.

The excess of births over deaths has for several years been diminishing, and for the year 1872 the figures are 1,293 births and 1,316 deaths, showing in this year an actual decrease of the population. This is occasioned by the excessive infant mortality, and is very unsatisfactory in an Island in which ample and exemplary medical provision is made for children of the labouring class under nine years of age. The subject has engaged particular attention, and medical reports and returns bearing upon it have been collected, and will, no doubt, receive the attention they so much demand whenever a release from the absorbing duties of federation permits sufficient administrative care to be bestowed on the details of local government.

Legislation.

Twelve laws were passed during the year:—

No. 1 was to supply a deficiency which had been felt since the abolition of the Corporation by the establishment of a Town Warden, and up to the present time the law has worked well.

Nos. 2 and 9. Two appropriation Acts for granting supplies to Her Majesty for the use of the Island for the year 1872 and (supplemental) for the year 1871.

Nos. 3 and 7. Two Acts to give effect to the changes in the executive department of the Presidency necessary in consequence of federation.

Nos. 4 to 6. Three Acts granting pensions on the abolition of their offices to the President of the Legislative Assembly and to the Auditor-General, and abolishing the latter's office.

No. 8. The usual annual remission of three-fourths of the tax for immigration purposes, funds not being at present required for that service.

No. 10. An Act to abolish the local office of Attorney-General now merged into that of the Federal Attorney-General, and to constitute a Police Magistrate in lieu of the Attorney-General, who ex-officio held that office.

No. 11. The only hospital hitherto in the Island is situated in the

principal town, and the accommodation it furnishes has been found so inadequate to the necessities of the population that this Act was passed to establish an auxiliary hospital in the second town.

No. 12. Rearranges the treasury department, and is supposed to improve the system of check. It has no effect on the revenue.

This year has seen the introduction of federation. In the progression which steam and electricity have brought about, Government could scarcely stand still, and federation would probably have shortly become a necessity if it had not, by a wise anticipation, been made a choice.

It is, however, too early to say more of its effects than that, while this Island suffers the harass and inconvenience necessarily accompanying the dislocation incident to the crisis of so great a change, it is sustained by the hope of the early realization of the promised benefits that centralization should confer. Terms by which a legislative union became possible have been adjusted, and a workable central Government has been formed, while each Island retains all the legislative power that it requires to foster its local interests or to develop its special resources. It is perfectly true that there are many complaints now made here, and it is unnecessary to contend, that these are for the most part either unjust or frivolous, but no defects have been pointed out that are not remediable, and which experience and the good faith of the Imperial Government, may not be relied on to remove sooner or later—and sooner rather than later, because defects in administration are really often less endurable to Governors than they are to the governed.

JAMES S. BERRIDGE,
President.

St. Kitts, 25th April, 1873.

GIBRALTAR.

No. 13.

General Sir W. F. WILLIAMS, Bart., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Gibraltar, July 1, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Gibraltar for the year 1872, the accuracy of which has been certified by the Colonial Secretary; and to submit the following Report thereon.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue collected in 1872 was 43,204*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*, including the refund of the sum of 5,000*l.* advanced from the Colonial to the Treasury chest in 1871, showing an apparent increase, as compared with that of the preceding year, of 5,048*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*; the real increase being 48*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* The total expenditure in the year was 46,712*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, including the sum of 13,000*l.* invested in Exchequer

GIBRALTAR.

Bills for the benefit of the Colony. The surplus cash balance of the Colony on the 31st December, 1872, was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
In the Colonial chest - - - -	2,909	7	8
Invested in Exchequer Bills - - -	30,800	0	0
Total - - -	£33,709	7	8

Duties and Fees.

No change was made during the past year with regard to any of the sources of revenue. A tariff of charges for messages transmitted by the Gibraltar Government Telegraph between Gibraltar and Spain was established in accordance with a provisional agreement between the two Governments.

Legislation.

Four proclamations were published during the year:—

1. To put in force Her Majesty's Order in Council establishing a uniform standard of value in Her Majesty's city garrison, and territory of Gibraltar.
2. To put in force Her Majesty's Order in Council, for carrying into effect a treaty concluded between Her Majesty and the Emperor of Germany, for the mutual extradition of criminals.
3. To put in force a schedule showing the coins expressly authorized to be received in payment of rates and duties.
4. To put in force Her Majesty's Order in Council, for carrying into effect a treaty concluded between Her Majesty and the King of the Belgians, for the mutual extradition of fugitive criminals.

Civil Establishment.

In the civil establishment of the Colony there was little change during the year. The death of Mr. S. H. O'Bryen led to the appointment of Mr. F. P. Hoare as Collector and Receiver of Her Majesty's Revenues; this gentleman having previously held the office of Receiver-General in the Colony of Trinidad.

Public Works.

The total expenditure on public works and roads amounted to 2,604*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* The principal works undertaken were the erection of a commodious house for the assistant-surgeon of the Civil Hospital, and additional baths and lavatories for the patients in that institution; and the further dredging of the harbour and approaches to the several wharves.

Education.

The number of public schools receiving Government aid remained as in 1871, viz. 9; but the returns show a considerable decrease in the total number of pupils attending the Roman Catholic schools and the Gibraltar public school. The decrease in the attendance in the latter is satisfactorily explained by the temporary closing of the male branch of the school, which required substantial repairs and renewal, at an estimated cost of 910*l.* from the Colonial revenue; the building being Crown property, No. 757.

Population.

The Table of the civil population is filled up from the returns of the last Census taken in April, 1871, showing an aggregate of 18,695 persons, of whom 2,241 were aliens residing in the garrison on temporary permits. The military population amounted to 5,774, making the total gross population, in 1872, 24,216 souls.

The number of births and marriages registered during the year was 628 and 166 respectively, showing an increase of 16 births and 8 marriages in the number registered in 1871. The number of deaths registered was 505, showing a decrease of 33 as compared with the previous year.

The rate of mortality was as follows:—

Civil population - - - -	22·90 per mille.
Military population- - - -	13·60 per mille.

Shipping.

The shipping return of the year 1872 exhibits a steady improvement over that of the previous year, which was the heaviest ever made for this Colony.

The increase in the grand totals of the arrivals during the year 1872, as shown in the following Table, was 319 vessels, 173,970 tons, 6,174 men (crews), and a corresponding increase of 404 steamers:—

Years.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Steamers.
1871 - - -	4,735	1,815,491	85,351	2,323
1872 - - -	5,054	1,989,461	91,525	2,727
Increase in 1872 -	319	173,970	6,174	404

General Remarks.

The general condition of the Colony may be regarded as satisfactory and prosperous. The public health during the past year was very good, and the garrison free from any epidemic disease. In conclusion, I have the satisfaction to add that, notwithstanding the state of affairs in Spain, the neighbouring towns of Algeciras and San Roque have remained perfectly quiet, and, consequently, there has been no interruption of the regular traffic and daily intercourse between the inhabitants of this fortress and the neighbouring country.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. F. WILLIAMS,
General and Governor.

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

SIERRA LEONE.

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 14.

No. 14.

Colonel HARLEY, C.B., to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, The Castle, Cape Coast, 26th July, 1873.

IN transmitting to your Lordship the copy of a Despatch from the Acting Administrator at Sierra Leone, forwarding the Blue Book of that Settlement for the year 1872, I beg leave very respectfully to enclose for your Lordship's information a copy of a Despatch which I have addressed to Major Bravo in reply.

I shall on the receipt of the Report called for by me, forward the same to your Lordship without delay.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) R. W. HARLEY, Col.,
Administrator-in-Chief.

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Major BRAVO to the ADMINISTRATOR-IN-CHIEF.

SIR, Government House, Sierra Leone, 24th June, 1873.

IN accordance with Despatch, No. 52, of the 11th instant, I have now the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book (in duplicate) of this Settlement for the year 1872.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ALEX. BRAVO,
Administrator.

His Excellency the Administrator-in-Chief,
Cape Coast Castle.

Colonel HARLEY, C.B., to the ACTING ADMINISTRATOR, Sierra Leone.

SIR, The Castle, Cape Coast, 26th July, 1873.

WITH reference to your Despatch, No. 45, of the 24th ultimo, forwarding the Blue Book of Sierra Leone for the year 1872, I have to request you will favour me with your Report upon it, for the information of the Earl of Kimberley, with as little delay as possible.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) R. W. HARLEY, Col.,
Administrator-in-Chief.

The Acting Administrator,
Sierra Leone.

(*True Copy.*)
JACOB WM. LEWIS,
Assistant Private Secretary.

GAMBIA.

No. 15.

Administrator HARLEY to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

SIR, Government House, June 28, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book for these Settlements for the year 1872.

2. I regret that owing to the epidemic of yellow fever, together with the disturbed state of the river and country adjacent, the revenue does not appear in such a flourishing condition as might otherwise have been expected, and therefore does not meet the sum as shown for expenditure in the "Appropriation Ordinance" for 1872.

However, taking the above reasons into consideration, I am of opinion that had trade not been checked, the amount of revenue would have been increased, and would have covered the surplus expenditure shown, and which is covered in a supplementary estimate.

3. The difference between the years 1871 and 1872 being as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
In 1871 - - -	17,490	16,662
„ 1872 - - -	17,249	17,873

By these figures your Excellency will perceive but a slight difference in the revenue for the two years; and as regards the expenditure, the amount shown for the year 1872 includes the sum shown in a supplementary Ordinance for this year, whereas the amount shown (1,750*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*) in the supplementary Ordinance for 1871 is exclusive of the above amount.

4. As the increase to the revenue is becoming apparently year by year more doubtful, I shall by the next mail forward to your Excellency a fresh tariff, which will have been carefully prepared in the presence of the mercantile community, and will thereby not only improve the revenue of the Settlement, but abolish some of the heavy taxes on the poorer classes, reduce the fixed salaries, and provide for the yearly expenses of the colonial police boat.

5. The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure for the last seven years:—

	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1866 - -	15,754	4	0	17,681	11	6
1867 - - -	21,641	5	10	18,664	7	9
1868 - -	22,088	7	0	17,082	12	7
1869 - - -	15,733	14	2	20,236	16	11
1870 - -	17,969	4	1	21,937	0	4
1871 - - -	17,490	3	10	16,662	15	2
1872 - -	17,249	9	2	17,873	17	0

6. Opposition is apparently made to local improvements, such as fencing the cholera burial ground, and laying it out in neat paths lined with hedges; I have myself attempted this, but failed, owing to

the natives destroying the work and stealing the fencing, &c.; likewise the mangrove stakes that were last year put down at ½ die for the protection of the sea wall that was being built, they have been nearly all stolen.

7. *Militia at McCarthy's Island*

were called out last year for their annual drill, and the sum of 1,457*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* was expended on account of the threatened invasion of Combo by the Marabouts.

8. *Public Works.*

Most of the public buildings were re-roofed and put in repair, the barracks were thoroughly overhauled, and alterations made in Government House grounds; not to speak of roads, drains, bridges, &c., and sanitary improvements during the epidemic, &c.

9. *Legislation.*

Six Ordinances were enacted, but it would be as well to note that the whole of the Ordinances require revision more or less, and which if done would put a stop to much of the disputes relative to the construction of different clauses.

10. *Pensions.*

The only alteration under this head is the reduction of 50*l.* by the demise of Mr. J. B. Campbell.

11. *Consuls.*

The French Consul, Monsieur Blain, having died, Monsieur Barrere is now acting as such for the present.

Mr. David Brown is Vice-Consul of the United States.

12. *Church.*

The Established Church was under repair the latter part of the year, and still has the same pastor. The Roman Catholic Mission consists of three priests and a convent with three sisters of charity; the Mission suffered heavily in the epidemic. The Wesleyans have a European minister, and several chapels distributed in different parts.

13. *Schools and Education.*

To the former there is a fair attendance, the principal drawback being the absence of the children every year when the natives' crop are gathered or sown. The Wesleyans have made great progress.

14. *Population*

is less than what it was the previous year, owing to the epidemic of yellow fever. There are only 26 whites, and most of those of the mercantile community leave for England every year to avoid the bad season.

15. *Imports and Exports.*

The total imports during 1872 amounted to 123,088*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, out of which 43,100*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* was imported from England, the balance from the other countries as shown. The total exports amount to 127,225*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*, of which 98,083*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* was alone exported to France. The imports show an increase on the previous year, but a

decrease as regards exports, owing, I presume, to the unsettled state of the country, and thereby stopping agriculture in the different districts.

16. *Shipping.*

This shows a slight falling off compared with last year, principally due to the slackness of the coasting trade.

17. *Agriculture.*

I regret I cannot report progress in this, as owing to the petty disturbances and the war between the Pagans and Mahommedans still in continuance, although nearly at a close, I see no likelihood at present of the country being improved as regards husbandry.

18. *Gaol and Prisoners.*

By the comparative table there is a decrease in the number of offences reported to the police, although the summary convictions for offences against the person during 1872 is nearly double what it was in the previous year. A greater amount of vigilance and efficiency on the part of the police may account for the increase of summary convictions. The diminution in the number of persons convicted in the superior court for larceny is explained by the fact that in many cases the accused were found guilty under the second count of the information against them for receiving the goods stolen with guilty knowledge, and are duly categoried under "offences against the person" other than larceny. Offences against the person and larceny are the principal crimes in the Gambia, nearly all the rest being petty infractions of the police rules of the Settlement.

19. *Hospital.*

The number of patients admitted into the hospital shows an increase in the year 1871. The prevailing diseases being yellow fever and small-pox.

20. In commenting upon the state of the Settlements, it is evideut that in order to better our financial condition a new tariff should be drawn up, which would equalize all parties interested in trade. There is no doubt that the French, in course of time, will have the monopoly as regards trade, more especially as they do most of their business on cash payments. As regards the molestation of our traders in the river, I think that is now a thing of the past, having entered into arrangements with the strongest party, not to speak of the inestimable assistance which we shall shortly derive in the arrival of a colonial steamer. I have stopped frequent aggression since I have had the honour to belong to this Settlement, and with hardly any means at my disposal, therefore I confidently assert that with a knowledge of the natives and a firm will shown by the Officer Administering the Government, trade may continue peaceably and prosperously, and ere long the natives will see the benefit derived therefrom.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. T. M. COOPER,

Acting Administrator.

The Administrator-in-Chief,

&c. &c.

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LAGOS.

No. 16.

No. 16.

Colonel HARLEY to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

The Castle, Cape Coast,
August 8, 1873.

MY LORD,

IN transmitting the Report on the Blue Book for 1872, I would very respectfully beg to draw your Lordship's attention to paragraph 25, in which the Administrator points out the causes which conduce in no small degree to the frequent interruptions with trade from which Lagos suffers, and which appears to me to require serious consideration.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) R. W. HARLEY, Col.,
Administrator-in-Chief.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

SIR,

Government House, July 23, 1873.

I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Settlement for the year 1872.

2. As I only arrived on the 22nd December, I cannot bring my personal experience to bear upon any of the events of the year.

3. The total revenue of the year from all sources was 41,346*l.*, being 3,769*l.* less than the amount collected in the previous year. Of the gross amount, the Customs contributed 30,714*l.* This, again, was raised by a specific duty on spirits, malt liquor, tobacco, cowries, cigars, gunpowder, guns, pistols, salt, and an ad valorem duty of four per cent. on unenumerated articles.

4. During the year the duty on rum has been increased from 4½*d.* to 6*d.* per gallon, and on tobacco from 1*d.* to 2*d.* per lb. Salt has also been added to the articles paying a specific duty, at the rate of five shillings per ton.

5. Under the other principal heads of revenue, sales of

	£
Government property realized	593
Land revenue	334
Postage	240
Licences	2,072
Fees of office	223
Fines, forfeitures, &c.	1,731
Miscellaneous	227
Reimbursement in aid of expenditure	2,476
Government vessels	276
Special receipts	2,008

though some of these items cannot be considered as revenue in the true sense of the word.

6. The expenditure of the year also amounted to 41,346*l.*, as, in consequence of outstanding claims, all the revenue of the year was paid out irrespective of the particular requirements of the year itself.

The expenditure, however, is less by 4,265*l.* than that of the previous year.

	£
7. The cost of the fixed establishments is - -	25,204
Works and buildings are charged with - -	2,422
Roads and bridges - - - - -	1,666
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	4,789
Pensions - - - - - - -	1,108
Hospitals - - - - - - -	1,332
Police and gaols - - - - - -	1,283
Rent of public buildings and quarters - -	327
Transport - - - - - - -	847
Interest on loans and advances - - -	307
Aborigines - - - - - - -	1,167
Drawbacks - - - - - -	464

8. Under the head of works and buildings there is the comparatively large sum of 1,294*l.* expended on the new station at Ode, which was never completed, and has been subsequently abandoned. Under roads and bridges, 850*l.* was paid as compensation for land to improve streets, and 179*l.* for a new road, eastern district. Under miscellaneous, 953*l.* and 244*l.* for defence of northern and western frontiers, and 2,349*l.* in payment of supplies of previous years. Under the head of Aborigines, 446*l.* is charged for the maintenance of messengers, and 554*l.* for presents to native chiefs, both of which items are capable of considerable prospective reduction.

9. The expenditure on the armed and civil police, and upon Government vessels during the year amounted to 12,909*l.*, and the regular fixed charge for this service is 10,000*l.*, a point that must be taken into consideration when estimating the increase that has taken place in the local expenditure in recent years, as the Imperial Government for some time previously contributed largely both to the military and naval protection of the Settlement.

10. The comparative statement of revenue assigns as a principal reason for the decrease in the receipts the depressed state of trade with the interior; and when it comes to be considered that all the communications with the principal outlets were cut off for nine months out of the twelve, the only wonder is that so large an amount should have been realized. I believe the merchants, hoping that the interruption in trade was likely to be only of a temporary nature, continued to import up to a late period in the year, and that it is upon 1873 that the principal pressure in this respect will fall, as there were heavy stocks on hand at the commencement of the year, without any immediate prospect of that renewal of intercourse with the interior which has since fortunately taken place.

11. The apparent decrease in the expenditure has in almost every instance arisen from the want of funds to meet outstanding demands, which have been transferred to the liabilities of the present year. The same remark applies, in some cases, to the increase under certain heads of expenditure, which is caused by the year 1872 being charged with the arrears of former years.

12. The public debt at the end of the year amounted to 18,628*l.*, and has since slightly increased. By means of a loan, however, from the Imperial Treasury, the Crown Agents have paid off all local

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liabilities and arrears of salaries, except in the case of a few merchants who objected to take bills of exchange, preferring to put in their public claims in payment of duties on future importations.

13. No public work of importance was undertaken during the year, or, if previously commenced, finished, in consequence, to a great extent, of a want of funds.

14. Under the head of legislation, an Ordinance was passed authorizing the prohibition of the import and export of goods to or from Lagos. This Ordinance has been modified by a subsequent measure. An Ordinance to establish a Court of Divorce, also subsequently amended, was likewise passed. Four Ordinances make certain alterations in the duties and taxes, and two are the ordinary appropriation Ordinances. This concludes the legislative work of the Settlement for the year.

15. In the Civil Establishment the changes have been numerous. Captain Glover left on the 16th June, after an unusually protracted term of Administration, during the entire of which he evinced much personal vigour and energy, in spite of the enervating effects produced by a lengthened residence in a climate such as this. Many memorials remain of Captain Glover's desire to promote the material prosperity of the Settlement, and the social and moral condition of the inhabitants, especially those among the labouring classes. Temporary provision has been made for the performance of the Administrator's duties since Captain Glover's departure. Capt. Lees has succeeded the late Mr. W. H. Simpson as Collector of Customs. Mr. R. D. Mayne has been appointed Chief Magistrate, in the place of Mr. Way resigned. Captain Bryden succeeded the late Mr. Pike as Commandant of the Eastern District. Mr. Hunter resigned his appointment as Colonial Engineer, which has only been temporarily filled up. Major Doorly succeeded the late Mr. Gerard, as Stipendiary Magistrate in Lagos; and Mr. Pratt was appointed Postmaster, vice Mr. Turton resigned. Mr. Simpson, Mr. Pike, and Mr. Gerard all died during the year; but only one death, that of Mr. Gerard, actually occurred in Lagos.

16. The pension list has been reduced to the extent of 530*l*., by the deaths of ex-Chiefs Kosoko and Ashogbong.

17. The population of Lagos, according to the census of 1871, amounted to 36,005 souls, of which 82 were white, the rest coloured or black. The population of the entire Settlement is estimated at 60,221, out of which there are only 92 whites.

18. The Settlement contributes nothing towards the promotion of religion or education. The Church Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Society, and the Roman Catholics, are all represented in the shape of ministers, churches, and schools. There is a public Grammar School in Lagos in connection with the Church Missionary Society, with an average attendance of 40, and a Female Institution with an attendance of 34. This latter is presided over by the wife of one of the missionaries. The Church Missionary Society in Lagos alone provides three other schools, with an average attendance of 452, and a training institution for schoolmasters, at which there are 17 pupils. The Wesleyan Society supports two schools in Lagos, with an attendance of 314. The Roman Catholic returns do not appear to be furnished, but their establishment has been recently largely increased

19. The value of imports for the year amounted to 366,256*l.*; of these there were from—

	£
United Kingdom	267,274
British Colonies	343
France	11,667
Germany	36,066
Portugal	63
Madeira	271
Teneriffe	605
Windward ports	249
Porto Novo	7,050
Leeward ports	458
River Niger	825
Zanzibar	15,088
Mozambique	5,917
Brazils	19,249

Large importations of spirits came from France and Germany, of cowries from Zanzibar, and of tobacco and spirits (rum) from the Brazils.

20. The value of the exports for the year is estimated at 444,848*l.*, and I have little reason to question the accuracy of the calculation as it is arrived at from returns furnished and declared to by the exporters themselves. I doubt, however, whether the principle be correct of including in a return of this nature the value of articles not the products of the country, which have been previously imported from Europe and elsewhere, and subsequently exported to places without the limits of the Settlement. Excluding, in the present instance, all such articles, the quantity and value of the exports for the year would appear to be as follows:—

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Beniseed	261 tons, 9 cwts.	3,890
Calabashes	5 packages	13
Camwood	4 cwts.	4
Castor seeds	1 package	1
Cocoa-nuts	77,953	317
Cotton, raw	442,366 lbs.	16,249
Country cloths	23 packages	1,198
Curiosities	2 „	5
Egusi seeds	1 „	3
Ginger	3 cwts.	5
Ground nuts	7 tons	549
Gum	263 lbs.	6
Hides	4,036 „	169
Indigo	7 cwts.	15
Ivory	5,893 lbs.	1,517
Kolah nuts	5 packages	77
Lime	36 „	43
Monkey skins	1 „	6
Oil, black	145 galls.	12
Oil, palm	1,321,086 galls.	135,881
Palm kernels	16,870 tons	223,711
Rice	1 ton	32
Rushes	1 package	4
		383,707

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21. The shipping return is also in my opinion compiled on an erroneous principle. It has been the habit to include the mail steamers calling at the port. As the service is a weekly one and the vessels average about 1000 tons each, it may be imagined how the return is increased by this arrangement.

22. I have already made a special report upon the state and condition of the Lagos prison. Until a more suitable building is erected, it will be impossible to apply any improved system of discipline, or to expect any marked result to be produced on the minds of the criminal classes which the enforcement of a more deterrent mode of punishment within the walls might bring about.

23. Upon examining the comparative table of offences for the last four years, it will be seen that 1872 is below the average of that period both as far as the number of summary convictions, and of those in the Superior Courts. Indeed, when the mixed nature of the population is considered, the absence of any serious amount of the higher class of crimes is to be noted.

24. The hospital is the only public institution in the Settlement worthy of the name. The building was originally erected as a barrack for troops, at the time that the Imperial Government garrisoned the place, and was built under the supervision of the Royal Engineer Department. It is most effectively conducted and would be a boon to the poorer part of the community, did not native prejudices to a great extent prevent them from taking advantage of a mode of treatment not consonant with their own ideas. There is no separate lunatic asylum or poor-house.

25. In conclusion, I would remark that the year 1872 has been disastrous in its consequences to many having mercantile connections with the Settlement, in consequence of the closing of the roads, which took place on the 18th March, and continued up to a recent period in the present year. This may not be the proper occasion to discuss the political bearings of the case, but there is one point, having more immediate reference to the course of trade here, to which I would beg to draw attention, as conducing in no small degree, I think, to the interruptions that have so frequently occurred in our dealings with the natives. I allude to the practice that has existed of giving credit in the most reckless way. This habit prevails from the Manchester manufacturer down to the Lagos petty trader, and would seem to have been carried on without much regard to the ordinary precautions usually observed in business transactions. Hence a positive inducement arises, in the case of the unsuccessful or dishonest trader, to bring about complications with the natives, who, in their turn, may be deeply indebted to the Lagos merchants, and consequently interested in stopping the trade. A resident merchant or trader cannot make remittances of produce to England while the roads are closed and the native in the interior seizes upon the same pretext for keeping his creditor in Lagos without supplies.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE BERKELEY,

Administrator.

His Excellency the Administrator-in-Chief.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 17.

Governor BARKLY to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Government House, Cape Town, 26th July, 1873.

IN transmitting the Blue Book of this Colony for 1871, I commenced my Despatch by stating that the year had been one of unprecedented prosperity. The Returns for 1872, which I have now the honour to forward, completely throw into the shade nevertheless those for 1871.

2. Indeed it would scarcely be much exaggeration to say that the rapidity of the progress of South Africa, during the last three or four years, is paralleled only by that of the Australian Colonies after the discovery of gold.

3. I proceed, as usual, to pass in review the points of most interest in last year's Returns.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total receipts into the Treasury stand at 1,161,548*l.*, about double what they were in 1869! Rather more than half at both periods was derived from the Customs, which in the last-named year brought in 295,860*l.* against 604,413*l.* in 1872, the Tariff having in the interim remained unaltered.

The increase in this item over the year 1871 was little short of 220,000*l.*, leaving about 80,000*l.* of the total increase (which, after mere items of account are deducted, may be stated at 300,000*l.*) to be made up from other sources; the next most productive being Rents of Crown Lands, which rose by the sum of 23,872*l.*

The total outlay stands at 922,567*l.*, but this includes 259,900*l.* spent in liquidating Public Debts—thus reducing actual expenditure to 662,667*l.*

Making allowances on the other side for debts contracted, this shows a nett surplus on the year of no less than 425,000*l.*

Balances.

Notwithstanding therefore the appropriation of more than a quarter of a million just mentioned to the payment of debts, the balances in the General Treasury or Divisional Chests, and in the hands of the Crown agents in England, will be found to have stood at the end of the year at close upon 400,000*l.*, or nearly double what they were at its commencement.

The Government has thus been enabled to meet current expenditure on Public Works from its own resources, while at the same time it will have no difficulty in providing for the liquidation, when the time comes, of Debentures to the amount of 196,000*l.*, issued or general purposes in 1861, and falling due in December next.

The avowed object of my responsible advisers, is, indeed, to take

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advantage of the present season of prosperity, to pay off liabilities incurred in aid of ordinary expenditure during the times of financial pressure, through which the Colony had to pass—leaving future outlay on Railways, Telegraphs, &c., to be covered when necessary by fresh loans raised for the express purpose, and thus securing the eventual representation of the whole of the debt by reproductive works.

If this wise policy be persevered in for the next year or two, and the outstanding 6 per cent. Loans consolidated into a 4½ per cent. Stock, under the Act passed last Session, the balance to be provided for annual interest will be so small, as hardly to be appreciable in years of prosperity, and, even in years of adversity, to constitute no unsustainable burden.

Public Debt.

As yet the Returns on this head exhibit little alteration—for 195,000*l.* of the sum repaid last year, went to extinguish unfunded debts, contracted during times of difficulty without authority of Parliament, and not included in the Blue Book Returns. Other liabilities moreover are, for the first time, set forth in the present year's Return, such as the debts of the old Kowie Harbour Company, amounting to nearly 40,000*l.*, and 20,000*l.* for the survey of Crown lands, which is rather a special advance than a debt.

On the other hand, Debentures of various loans to the amount of 14,900*l.*, have been bought up during the year on account of the Sinking Fund Commissioners, and cancelled.

The Return for 1872 therefore represents the amount of loans contracted directly by the Colonial Government at 1,204,644*l.*, and of loans for Public Works issued under its guarantee at 386,950*l.*, making a total of 1,591,594*l.*, or about 45,000*l.* more than that shown in last year's Return.

This amount will be increased by 780,000*l.*, through the purchase of the Cape Town and Wellington Railway, which was handed over by the Company, on the 1st January of the present year, but the real indebtedness of the Colony will scarcely, if at all, be increased thereby, as it was already responsible for the payment of 30,000*l.* per annum, by way of guaranteed interest, and the receipts of the line, for the present year, leave an estimated surplus of about 6,000*l.* over the expenditure for maintenance.

It is scarcely to be expected that a line so expensively constructed will ever yield enough to meet the full interest on the capital spent on its construction, but it may be hoped than when the contemplated extensions are completed, the nett profits of working will suffice to pay something like half the annual charge of this nominal addition to the debt of the Colony.

Whether the Government will be able to enforce its lien on the landed property in the divisions through which the line runs, if the principle of sub-guarantee is not applied in the case of other railways, seems very doubtful.

The whole of the loans in the second class were fortunately incurred for works which, under present circumstances, are remunerative, and entail no outlay on the Colonial Treasury.

Public Works.

Preparations for carrying out the important railway works sanctioned during the Session of the Colonial Parliament, from Port Elizabeth towards Graham's Town in the eastern, and from Wellington to Worcester in the western, district, were made directly the Acts passed; but owing to the scarcity of labour resulting from emigration to the diamond fields, as well as to the difficulty of procuring the necessary plant from England, the progress made during the remainder of the year was not so rapid as could have been wished.

Tenders for constructing an electric telegraph to the diamond fields were also at once advertised for, and a contract for continuing it from Fort Beaufort as far as the Orange River was executed before the close of the year.

As in the case of the railways, however, the strikes at home and consequent enormous rise in the price of materials operated most prejudicially to the interests of the Colony, hard wood posts having to be adopted for supporting the wires in lieu of iron standards, which would have been preferable in a country like this.

The only other undertaking of magnitude provided for by Parliament, the Graving Dock in Table Bay, was not commenced during the year, pending the final approval of Sir John Coode's plans by the Lords of the Admiralty.

Though retarded to some extent by causes already alluded to, the construction of new roads and erection of new bridges was carried on all over the country, on a scale indicative of its rising prosperity.

Population, Education, Crime, &c.

The Census Returns of 1865 are still given, without any attempt at correction, as the only available account of the way in which the Colony is peopled.

As regards education, in addition to the information afforded in the Blue Book as to Government schools, the Annual Report of the Superintendent-General shows continued satisfactory progress, the number of institutions subject to Dr. Dale's inspection having risen from 486 to 515, and the scholars from 43,099 to 46,245.

With regard to the Kaffir population, it will, I am sure, be gratifying to your Lordships to learn that "the desire for education is "growing spontaneously, and the elevation of the natives proceeding "as rapidly as is consistent with the circumstances of Colonial "society."

In connection with the spread of education, the great augmentation in the work of the Post Office may be mentioned. In the Report of the Postmaster-General, the comparison, as regards internal communication, is only shown by the increased weight of "mail matter" despatched from Cape Town to the interior, which amounted in 1872 to 106,534 lbs.; but as regards letters to England by steamers, the number rose from 125,866 in the preceding year to 162,590.

The returns of gaols and prisons continue to be made on the old and not easily intelligible forms. The commitments for offences of all sorts were somewhat larger than during the preceding year, but it

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Enclosure. Memorandum.

will be seen from the annual Memorandum on Convict Discipline enclosed, that no appreciable increase of serious crime took place, the average number of convicts at the several establishments having been 991 as against 1,018; though on the latest day the roll exceeded by 5 that for 31st December, 1871.

The contents of the returns relative to hospitals and asylums have been anticipated in my Despatch, No. 52, of the 3rd June last. The purchase of the barracks at Fort England, near Graham's Town, from the Imperial Government, for the purpose of being converted into a lunatic asylum for the eastern districts, was approved during last Session, and I trust that this vote may be regarded as a preliminary proof of that augmented interest on the part of Parliament, in the public institutions of the Colony, to which I look forward.

Shipping and Imports and Exports.

The import trade of the Colony continued to make such rapid progress that the number and tonnage of vessels entered with cargoes greatly increased, as will be seen from the subjoined comparison:—

	1871.		1872.		Increase.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
British - -	307	139,600	375	187,317	68	47,717
Foreign - - -	80	29,874	107	42,522	27	12,648
	387	169,474	482	229,839	95	60,365

The coasting trade showing a commensurate augmentation. The combined movement of tonnage inwards and coastwise amounted to 470,691 tons, or an increase of nearly two-fifths over that of the previous year.

The number of vessels cleared outward with cargo was precisely the same in both years, viz. 377, but those of 1872 were larger by 20,165 tons than in 1871.

These figures scarcely give an idea, however, of the immense advance in the value both of imports and exports, the former having risen from 2,585,298*l.* to 4,388,728*l.*, or 1,803,430*l.*; and the latter from 3,408,635*l.* to 4,666,071*l.*, or 1,257,436*l.*

This is exclusive of specie, which was imported to the value of 1,800,515*l.*, and exported to that of 72,095*l.*, bringing the aggregate of imports to over six millions stirling.

Probably the exports would be swollen to an equally great sum, if the whole of the diamonds sent home had passed through the Customs, their aggregate value having been estimated in the Annual Report of the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce at 1,500,000*l.*, whereas those declared were valued at 306,041*l.* only.

The chief item of increase was wool, of which two millions and a half pounds more were shipped; whilst the enhanced value of the entire export exceeded that of 1871 by upwards of a million sterling owing mainly to the rise in prices.

Concluding Observations.

The most remarkable event of the year, the alteration in the form of Government, has still to be noticed.

With external commerce representing, as just shown, twelve millions sterling, with a revenue exceeding one million, and a nett surplus over ordinary expenditure of four hundred thousand pounds, disposable for public works, it would have been strange indeed if a Parliament in the twentieth year of its existence had rested content to leave the affairs of the Colony in the hands of an executive in no way responsible to it for the manner in which they were administered.

Neither the jealousies of rival capitals therefore, nor the difference in the temperament of colonists, of Dutch or of English descent, could any longer delay the assumption by the Parliament of the full powers of self-government, which the mother-country was quite ready to concede.

The Act for amending the constitution ordinance by providing for the appointment of responsible officers, was passed about the middle of the year, but the necessary arrangements for a transition to the new system required time, and it was only at the beginning of December that the first Ministry entered office.

The complete restoration of the Colony to prosperity took place consequently, by a sort of poetic justice, under the old régime which had struggled so hard to guide it safely through its long period of adversity; but the change, nevertheless, did not come an hour too soon to admit of full advantage being taken of the happier circumstances of its present position.

Experience of the new system thus inaugurated under the most favourable auspices has as yet been brief; but even those who opposed its introduction most strongly would, I believe, hesitate to deny that it is working well, and that it has already effected improvement in the despatch of parliamentary business, and in the general administration of the country, which promises well for the future.

A single strong governing power has, in fact, been substituted for the dual forces of the Executive and Legislature, which were before as often as not exerted in opposite directions, and the happiest results as regards the general progress of the Colony may confidently be looked for.

That progress may not be exempt from interruptions due to bad seasons, low prices, and the like; it will doubtless be occasionally retarded by political contests; but, for the first time in the history of South Africa, its inhabitants have begun to feel that its future destiny lies in their own hands, and no temporary discouragements will prevent their rapid and successful development of the vast natural resources of the country.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) HENRY BARKLY,

Governor.

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Kimberley,

&c. &c. &c.

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Enclosure in Despatch, July 26, 1873.

MEMORANDUM upon the DISCIPLINE and MANAGEMENT of CONVICTS during the year 1872, submitted for the information of His Excellency the Governor.

On the 31st December, 1872, the number of convicts undergoing sentence at the several stations was 974, distributed as follows:—

Table Bay Harbour Works	233
Robben Island	20
Tradouw Pass	125
Port Elizabeth Harbour Works	96
Kowie Harbour Works	236
East London Harbour Works	264
Total	974

The number at stations at the corresponding period of the previous year was 969, showing an increase of five upon the total undergoing sentence. 645 newly convicted men, and 14 recaptured deserters were received during the year, making a total of 1,628, who have undergone punishment from 1st January to 31st December. Of the 645 above mentioned, 273 were sentenced by the Judges of the Supreme and Eastern District Courts, 271 by Resident Magistrates, 69 by Naval or Resident Magistrates' Courts for breaches of the Maritime Laws; the remaining 32 were military prisoners.

The crimes for which these men were sentenced were as follows:—

Against the person.—Murder, culpable homicide, assault, &c.	91
Against property, with violence.—House, shop, and store-breaking, &c.	70
Against property without violence.—Cattle and ordinary thefts, receiving stolen goods, &c.	365
Malicious offences against property.—Arson	5
Miscellaneous offences.—Forgery, perjury, &c.	13
Offences against the Maritime Laws	69
Military offences	32
Total	645

The average period of sentence passed upon each man by the Superior Courts was 2·304 years.

The number of second convictions was 78; third and upwards, 47.

Of the 273 convicted before the Supreme and Eastern District Courts, 271 were sentenced during 1872, the remainder during the previous year; 241 from Resident Magistrates' Courts were sentenced during the year, 30 remaining over from previous years; 2 of the military prisoners were tried and sentenced during 1871; the remainder, as well as the naval prisoners, during 1872.

The races of the newly sentenced men were as follows:—

Europeans, or of European descent	136
Hottentots, Bushmen, &c.	189
Natives of border tribes	320
	645

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The total number of convicts, 1,628, was reduced during the year by 654, of whom 15 deserted, 26 died, 597 were discharged, and 16 were transferred (2 to Robben Island and 14 to military authorities) for removal to England.

The general average of the year was 991, being 9 less than the number estimated for, employed as follows :—

Table Bay Harbour Works and Robben Island	234
Tradouw	156
Port Elizabeth	101
Kowie	244
East London and Liefeldt's, near King William's Town	256
	991

Full particulars of the crimes and sentences of the prisoners received, the mitigations granted, minor punishments inflicted, &c., will be found in Annexures Nos. 1 to 6.

The educational reports from the several stations are of a satisfactory nature.

The convicts, 95 in number, employed during the year at Liefeldt's, near King William's Town, were transferred to East London on the 31st December, and located on the recently established out-station at Panmure.

The total amount expended for the maintenance and discipline of 991 convicts during the year was 25,818*l.* 4*s.*, being at the rate of 26*l.* 1*s.* 0½*d.* per man, or 13*s.* 10*d.* per man above the original and supplementary estimates granted for the service of 1872. This excess was caused principally by the unexpected advance in the cost of rations at the Breakwater station during the latter half of the year. A detailed statement will be found in Annexure No. 7. The above-mentioned sum is that actually issued from the Colonial Treasury; but, on the other hand, the sum of 1,192*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* was paid into the Treasury during the year. This amount was made up chiefly of pecuniary rewards (with interest accruing while deposited in the Savings Bank) granted to convicts by the Government at various times, which, owing to deaths and forfeitures, could not be claimed. If credit were taken for the amount in the general statement of expenditure, the reduction in the cost of each convict would be 1*l.* 2*s.* 0½*d.*

The average number of convicts employed upon road and harbour works was 881, and the number of days upon which these men worked, 276. The aggregate amount of labour on the works by the number of men labouring for one day requisite to effect the same results was equal to 243,156 men. At 2*s.* 6*d.* per man per diem, the value of the work performed was 30,394*l.* 10*s.*, against an expenditure of 25,818*l.* 4*s.*

J. C. MOLTENO,
Colonial Secretary.

ST. HELENA.

ST. HELENA.

No. 18.

No. 18.

Governor VICE-ADMIRAL PATEY to the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, St. Helena, March 17, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for the year 1872.

2. In my Dispatch, dated 12th July last, I reported to your Lordship the falling-off of the revenue below the amount which had been estimated, caused mainly by diminished receipts from the Customs.

	£
The estimates for 1872 were - -	16,125
The actual receipts - -	13,927
	2,198

The receipts in aid were 4,208*l.* from a Parliamentary loan, and 8,250*l.* loan raised by the Crown Agents, making the total receipts 26,385*l.*

3. The expenditure in the year amounted to 27,375*l.* This amount, however, includes the payment of 4,208*l.*, part of the Parliamentary loan of 5,158*l.* specially voted in 1871 for payment of outstanding debts, but brought to account in 1872. It also includes the amount of arrears due to the Crown Agents on 31st December, 1871, 5,141*l.*, and arrears of salary, 640*l.*, due to the Governor for 1871, paid in 1872. After deducting these amounts the sum of 17,386*l.* would remain as the expenditure for the service of the year 1872.

4. The amount of public debt at the end of 1872 was 16,750*l.*, of which 8,250*l.* was raised during the year.

5. I have already in my former reports fully laid before your Lordship the depressed condition of the Island, and I regret to say that there is nothing in these figures, nor in any other circumstance which I am aware of, that points to any return to prosperity.

6. From the falling-off of trade, and the diminished means of employment, a large number of the best labourers and artificers have left the Island in search of a more remunerative field,—280 have emigrated to the Cape of Good Hope, the greater portion of whom have been engaged for service in the copper mines in Namaqualand. A party of thirty or forty were first engaged for this employment, and passages were provided by the Copper-mine Company, from this to Port Nolloth. In consequence of the satisfaction which these emigrants gave to their employers, several shipments, in parties of 30 or 40 each, have since been despatched to Port Nolloth, and others are likely to follow: 261 liberated Africans were also on 11th October, 1872, forwarded to Lagos and Sierra Leone, passages to these places being provided for them by Government in Her Majesty's ship 'Himalaya.'

7. From the absence of capital and want of means of employment of labour, and from the reduction of the establishments, civil and military, all landed property has become greatly depreciated in value. Rents on an average have fallen about 33 per cent. below their former amount. The Government lands at Longwood which have yielded a rental of 313*l.* per annum during the last twenty-one years, could not on the expiration of the lease be relet for a higher rent than 195*l.*, although repeatedly advertised. The lands at Deadwood, formerly let at 135*l.*, are now let at 60*l.* per annum. Sales of land cannot be effected at all except at a ruinous sacrifice. A property which had twice within the last eight years realized 400*l.* could not be sold a few days ago for a higher sum than 80*l.* Another property costing over 800*l.* sold for 185*l.*

8. Attention has been turned to the cultivation of fibre plants, chiefly the aloe and the New Zealand flax. I am not able to say what the prospects of success may be, as the experiment has hardly yet commenced.

9. I have obtained from Mr. Chalmers, the Superintendent of Government Forests, a Report upon the experiments of the last year, herewith enclosed, in which he expresses the opinion that, in order to succeed with the fibre plantation in this Island, cultivation should be carefully attended to, and that the plants cannot be left (as some have supposed they might be) to the operation of nature alone, and from my own experience and means of information I entirely concur in this opinion. His Report also shows that the experiments in the growth of coffee at the grounds at Plantation have been most encouraging.

Mr. Chalmers's Report.

10. From these various causes of depression it is evident that the Island cannot in future, as hitherto, depend for its support upon the expenditure of the naval, military and civil establishments and passing shipping; and as no article of export can be produced without capital, which must lie dormant for some years, and then doubtful of any return, I am led to think that the future prospects of this Island are very far from encouraging.

11. The situation of St. Helena in mid-ocean (sighted by all ships from India, and a very large number from Australia) renders it a most important position for Imperial purposes as a coaling station and depôt for vessels of war, and it would be highly desirable that it should not be allowed to fall into insignificance, more particularly as in the event of hostilities the sinking of one ship in the Suez Canal (either by accident or design) might effectually close that passage—consequently the situation of this Island, in my opinion, is of the highest importance, and not inferior to that of Malta or Gibraltar. Two or three steamers stationed here would intercept the whole of the returning trade from the East.

12. During the year the number of vessels arriving at St. Helena was 667, being 91 less than the year 1871—375 vessels also passed through the harbour and communicated by signal. In addition to these a very large number of vessels pass during the night.

13. It will be observed from the return of deaths that the year has been remarkably healthy, the total number of deaths not exceeding 67, or about 1 per cent. of the population, more than

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half of this number being infants, or persons over 70 years of age.

14. The gaol returns show 125 as the total number of commitments during the year, chiefly summary convictions by the magistrates of seamen from the passing shipping for refusal of duty, or persons convicted of drunkenness or disorderly conduct. There were no cases of serious crime, and indeed only two cases in the whole year of commitments by the Supreme Court, both for larceny.

15. The schools are fourteen in number, with 995 scholars. I attended the annual examinations in December, and found the schools in a satisfactory state.

16. The other returns in the Blue Book call for no particular observation.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) CHAS. G. E. PATEY, Vice-Admiral,

The Earl of Kimberley, Governor.

&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the CINCHONA PLANTATION, &c., in the ISLAND of ST. HELENA, from December 12, 1871, to March 7, 1873.

In consequence of the unsatisfactory condition of the Cinchona plants at the date of my last year's Report, no further planting has been proceeded with during the past year. All necessary care has, however, been taken of the plantation, so that nothing might be wanting to give it a fair chance; nevertheless, it is still found that the number of plants continues to decrease, and no change for the better is as yet at all perceptible in their condition. Since about this time last year the total number of all kinds has gradually diminished to 358 plants, while only 262 of this number can be said to be in a healthy or thriving state at the present time; the remaining 96 are in a state of decay. About 100 plants are now over six feet in height, and some of them have increased considerably in size since last year. The tallest plant shows for the year an increase of 16 inches in height and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference, and is now 11 feet high with a stem of $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches round. A few others have made equally as much progress in the same period of time, and vary from 8 to 10 feet in height with stems of 8 to 10 inches in circumference. It is found as a rule, however, that the plants are at their greatest vigour at the height of 7 or 8 feet; over this height their leaves become smaller, and altogether they become stunted, sickly, and finally die. As I have previously stated, the Cinchonas grow here only in the layer of black vegetable soil that is found on the most elevated parts of the Island, and which is formed by the decomposition of the leaves and other matter that falls from the indigenous forest trees. Unlike the hardier native trees, their roots refuse to penetrate the hard rocky ground beneath, and so they invariably die shortly after they reach it.

2. With respect to the fruit trees at Plantation, their progress since last year has been in most cases very satisfactory. Many of the Cherimoyer trees have arrived at a bearing state, and promise to do well for the future—orange, lemon, and fig trees also all doing

pretty well. The small plantation of coffee trees, of which I spoke in favourable terms in my last year's Report, has already borne about 18 lbs. of prepared coffee, and, judging from the very flourishing appearance of the plants at present, it is not improbable that they will yield as much as 2 cwt. for next year. The majority of the trees will not have been three years planted till May next; their progress is therefore highly encouraging.

3. Regarding the cultivation of fibre-producing plants, it does not appear to me that much can be said from actual experience already had in the Island. The cost of planting, the length of time (from five to six years) required for the plants to come to maturity, and the quality of produce to a given space, would all, no doubt, vary greatly according to circumstances; but it is, however, very evident that nothing like a satisfactory result would ever be obtained unless a thorough system of cultivation were adopted. The ground would have to be well broken up, manured and kept free from weeds; otherwise a greater length of time than five or six years would be required for the crop to arrive at maturity, and the quantity of produce would not be near so large.

4. Experience has already shown that planting aloes, and especially New Zealand flax, in pits in grass lands does not answer, and that it is necessary to thoroughly prepare the land. The greater expense of proper cultivation would, I feel sure, be more than compensated by the much sooner return and greater quantity of produce.

5. Several very great improvements have been effected in the grounds about "Plantation House" within the last two or three years. The carriage roads from Red Hill Gate and White Gate have each been well macadamized, and a large number of valuable and ornamental trees planted alongside of them and about the grounds. The most conspicuous of these are the Norfolk Island pines, Bermuda cedars, and several species of cypress, all of which succeed remarkably well here, and give great effect to the place. It may fairly be presumed that Plantation was never before in so creditable a state as it is in at present.

6. The two gardens in town have also been very much improved lately. The one at the lower end of the town, or, as it is commonly called, the Castle Garden, has had some very fine trees and shrubs planted in it, and with the stone-edging to the walks it now presents a neat and agreeable appearance. The Norfolk Island pines introduced there have made most rapid progress in the short space of time since they were planted, and a few of them in front of the Civil Hospital in particular have made most astonishing growth. In the country it is very necessary to shelter young trees of this, and, in fact, of almost any kind: the prevailing trade-wind, blowing continually in one direction, has a very retarding effect upon their growth.

(Signed) J. H. CHALMERS,
Supt. of Cinchona Plantations, &c.

CEYLON.

No. 19.

No. 19.

The Right Hon. W. H. GREGORY to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon,
October 13, 1873.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1872, and to submit the following report on its contents:—

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for 1872 was 1,174,698*l.*; the expenditure for ditto, 1,062,994*l.*: excess of revenue over expenditure 111,704*l.*

	£
1872 - -	1,174,698
1871 - - -	1,121,679
	£53,019

As compared with 1871, the revenue of 1872 shows an increase of 53,019*l.*

The following are the principal items of increase:—

Customs: Imports, 33,472*l.*, attributable to the general increase of trade, principally in rice entered for home consumption at the port of Colombo, which amounted in 1872 to 4,314,738 bushels, showing an increase of duty of 21,608*l.* on that article alone, as compared with the previous year.

Showing as the returns of expenditure do a very large outlay on irrigation, some explanation may perhaps be necessary as to the cause of this large increase in the importation in 1872. It is owing partly to the failure of the harvest caused by the extraordinary flood which occurred in September, 1872, and also to an increase in the Coolie population in the estates. Although there is a large annual increase of irrigation works, the rice grown on land thus irrigated is generally consumed on the spot. As irrigation works are pushed on, chena cultivation is checked, the produce of dry grain is diminished, and there is a proportionate increase in the consumption of rice. The district of Batticaloa, however, produces more paddy than it consumes, and it will send up country still more when the road is bridged.

Land sales, 6,086*l.*, due to the high prices realized for coffee land. The increase is principally in the Central Province.

Licences: Arrack, rum, and toddy, 29,054*l.* The increase is chiefly in the Western and Central Provinces.

Stamps, 12,727*l.* The increase is partly only apparent, part of the collections which formerly figured as licences being now returned under this head. There has, however, been an actual increase of about 9,000*l.*, owing partly to the operation of the Ordinance, No. 18, of 1871, which requires every plaint before a police court to be on a stamp of fifteen cents, and every subpœna issued five cents.

Government vessels, 3,475*l.*, explained by the fact that the receipts in 1871 were only for a part of the year; the steamer having commenced to ply in September, 1871.

Under the head of Sale of Government Property, there are increases in the following items:—

Timber, 2,839*l.*, due to a larger demand for timber in the Puttalam district.

Government houses and buildings, 3,500*l.*, a casual receipt, due to the sale of the Queen's house at Galle.

Colonial stores, 5,030*l.*, owing partly to the sale of Queen's house furniture at Galle, and partly to a larger issue of stores to the Public Works Department.

2. There is a decrease of revenue under the following heads:—

Land Revenue: Paddy, 6,454*l.*, owing principally to unseasonable weather and the dulness of the trade. The unprecedented floods which occurred in September last also interfered with the collection of this branch of revenue.

Interest on Indian and local investments, 7,554*l.*, consequent on the withdrawal of moneys invested in Indian Government Securities.

Railway receipts, 12,976*l.*, occasioned by the shortness of the coffee crop in 1871–72, and by the interruption in the working of the line by heavy floods.

The expenditure of 1872 amounted to 1,062,994*l.*, that of 1871 was 1,064,184*l.*; showing a decrease of 1,190*l.*

Assets and Liabilities.

3. The assets of the Colony on the 31st December, 1872, amounted to 364,500*l.*, the liabilities amounted to 213,548*l.*; showing a balance in favour of the Government of 150,952*l.* Omitting from the statement of assets the sum of 20,000*l.* on account of arrears of revenue outstanding, and 3,000*l.* on account of surcharges outstanding, and deducting also from the statement of liabilities the item of 17,771*l.* on account of drafts outstanding, the balance amounted to 145,723*l.* This is subject to a further deduction on account of the cost of the new coin received from India in 1871 and 1872, estimated at 18,000*l.*, reducing the balance to 127,723*l.* The actual balance available for appropriation on the 31st December was, however, 126,455*l.*, as will be seen from the return subsequently prepared by the Auditor-General and forwarded with my Despatch, No. 194, of the 24th June last. Of this amount, a sum of 58,470*l.* was appropriated by the Ordinance, No. 8, of 1873, to certain works and services of acknowledged public utility, including 15,000*l.* for the extension of the railway to Nawalapitiya, leaving over and above the reserve of 50,000*l.*, maintained under standing instructions, a balance of 17,985*l.* still available.

Imports and Exports.

4. The Customs returns show that there was an increase of 410,906*l.* in the value of goods imported as compared with 1871, and a decrease of 467,355*l.* on the exports, the value being

Imports.

	£
1871 - - - - -	3,912,811
1872 - - - - -	4,323,717

Exports.

	£
1871 - - - - -	3,552,899
1872 - - - - -	3,058,543

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Adding to these the specie imported and exported, the total value of the imports and exports of 1872, as compared with the preceding year, stands thus:—

Imports.

	£
1871	4,797,952
1872	5,169,524

Exports.

	£
1871	3,634,853
1872	3,139,060

The total value of goods (exclusive of specie) imported and retained in the Colony during 1872 amounted to 3,970,253*l.*, viz:—

	£
Imports, exclusive of specie	4,323,717
Deduct imports exported	353,464
Goods retained	£3,970,253

The total value of specie imported and retained in the Island during 1872, amounted to 792,290*l.*

	£
Specie imported	845,806
„ exported	53,516
Specie retained	£792,290

The total value, therefore, of goods and specie imported and retained in the Island during 1872, amounted to 4,762,543*l.*, as follows:—

	£
Goods retained	3,970,253
Specie „	792,290
Goods and specie retained	£4,762,543

The total value of Ceylon produce exported in 1872 amounted to 2,732,079*l.*, viz.:—

	£
Exports, exclusive of specie	3,085,543
Deduct imports exported	353,464
Ceylon produce	£2,732,079

5. I subjoin the following explanatory report furnished by the Principal Collector of Customs, in submitting the customs returns for 1872:—

Imports.

"Specie importations, compared with those of 1871, show a decrease of 39,334*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*, which is caused by a smaller receipt from the United Kingdom, Suez, and British India. The import from Australia of 1872 exceeds that of 1871 by 27,733*l.* 10*s.*

The main items of general import on which the increase is shown are:—

	£	s.	d.
Ammunition	1,148	8	4¼
Cement	2,495	0	0½
Fish, dried and salted	10,387	1	0½
Grain of all kinds	378,337	17	9¾
Spirits	15,246	1	9¼
Tea	8,216	0	4¾
Tobacco	574	5	2
Wines	16,614	8	7¾
Woollens	485	18	5¾

In the trade with British and French India there is a decrease with the latter; but, owing to an unprecedently large importation of grain of all kinds from the former, and also of fish, dried and salted, there is an actual increase to the extent of 396,146*l.* 10*s.* 2¾*d.* There has been a slight increase in the imported quantities of cotton goods and thread, but of these and also of cotton twist, smaller quantities have been entered for home consumption than in 1871.

As in last year, so in this, the trade with Australia shows a falling off, principally in the importation of coal, coke, and wheat flour.

With Hong Kong, the value of trade has increased.

Exports.

Compared with 1871, there has been a general decrease in the quantity and value of goods exported to the extent of 495,793*l.* 10*s.* 5¾*d.*, the staple articles which show such decrease being—

Plantation and native coffee,
Cinnamon,
Cocoanuts,
Coir fibre and rope,
Timber.

Against eighty packages of cinchona bark, valued at 31*l.* 7*s.*, exported to the United Kingdom in 1871, there is this year an exportation of 694 packages, and 103 cwt., valued at 6,410*l.* 4*s.* This quantity has been sent to the United Kingdom, Suez, and British India.

The exportation of copperah has increased by 360,638 cwt., but its value has fallen.

Coir yarn shows an increase both in quantity and value, the largest quantities having been shipped to the United Kingdom and America.

A smaller quantity of plumbago has been sent to the United Kingdom, but a larger to America. There is, however, a falling off in its value.

The shipments of oils, cinnamon, citronella, and cocoanut, show an increase.

The large exportation of poonac of Ceylon manufacture to the United Kingdom and Mauritius, may be recorded as being the first after a series of years of cessation of trade in that article.

While in 1871 the amount of the exportation of specie to British and French India and Hong Kong was 81,954*l.*, in the year under

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review the exportations were to the United Kingdom, British India, France, and Suez, and amounted to only 53,516*l.* 2*s.*

The trade in imports exported consists chiefly of cotton goods, including twist and thread. Though there has been a slight falling off in the quantities, the value of the shipments is returned at 301,271*l.* 6*s.*

The shipments of coffee to Italy and Russia were very small, as also of cocoanuts and coir to Malta. These places, as well as Zanzibar, appear in the returns for the first time, but it is doubtful whether the last-named ought to have been entered, as the articles appearing in the export list were merely shipped as stores on board Her Majesty's ship 'Glasgow.'

2. 6. I append to this Despatch a return of exports of coffee, cinnamon, cocoanut oil, and coir for the last ten years, and a return of the total value of imports and exports (including specie and bullion) in the years 1870, 1871, and 1872.

Public Works.

7. The total expenditure on public works during the past year amounted to 298,322*l.*, viz. :—

	£
Government money - - - - - -	231,437
Road ordinance labour and private contributions -	32,177
Establishments - - - - - - -	34,708
	£298,322

8. In the year 1871 the expenditure was 282,575*l.*, showing an increase of 15,743*l.* in 1872.

The expenditure is divided under the following heads :—

	Government Money.	Road Ordinance Funds and Private Contributions.	Total.
WORKS AND BUILDINGS.	£	£	£
New works and buildings - - -	13,125	15	13,140
Alterations and additions to buildings -	7,001	—	7,001
Repairs to buildings - - - - -	6,418	—	6,418
ROADS, STREETS, BRIDGES, AND CANALS.			
New roads - - - - - - -	17,118	2,933	20,051
Additions and improvements to roads - -	13,355	1,454	14,809
Upkeep of roads - - - - - -	97,362	27,775	125,137
New bridges - - - - - - -	23,353	—	23,353
Repair of bridges - - - - -	6,360	—	6,360
Inland navigation - - - - - -	4,911	—	4,911
IRRIGATION WORKS.			
New works - - - - - - -	33,406	—	33,406
Upkeep works - - - - - - -	1,013	—	1,013
DEPARTMENTAL CHARGES.			
Ferry boats - - - - - - -	471	—	471
General service - - - - - - -	1,477	—	1,477
Miscellaneous - - - - - - -	6,067	—	6,067
	£231,437	32,177	263,614
Establishment - - - - - -	—	—	34,708
			£298,322

9. The funds from which the expenditure has been met are as follows:—

	£
Supply Bill, 1872	206,574
First Supplementary Supply Bill, 1872	17,122
Second „ „ „ „	386
Unexpended balances of previous years	21,429
Road ordinance funds	24,247
Private contribution	7,929
Loan board funds	3,347
Surplus funds, 1871	17,288
	£298,322

10. Of new buildings the following were the principal:—New hospital and additional works to hospital at Galle, Puttalam, Kurunégala, Trincomalee, Matara, and other stations, costing 6,369*l.*; schools at Galle, Badulla, and Colombo, 2,868*l.*; new jails, &c., 2,941*l.*; permanent sheds for immigrant Coolies, 894*l.*

11. The following are some of the most important of the new roads which were in progress last year:—

	£
Badulla and Batticaloa road	7,087
Dombulla road	6,675
Dik Oya road	5,037
Morowaka road	2,177
Widening Nawalapitiya and Tispane road	2,342
Improvement of Kégalla and Polgahawella road	2,038
„ Puperessa road	1,187

12. The following is the expenditure on new bridges:—

	£
Digarolle bridge on the Galle road	592
Gintara bridge „	7,780
Seven bridges in the Badulla and Batticaloa road	14,746
Ambalantota bridge in the Southern Province	2,343

13. The following is a summary of the expenditure upon irrigation works during the past year:—

WESTERN PROVINCE.

	£
Malwatte irrigation works	326
Kesbawa tank	59
Walalgoda irrigation works	128

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.

Magalawawa at Nikaweratiya	2,846
Channel from Devouru Oya to Munessaram	229
Kospotu Oya head sluice	78
Tinipitiya wewa	468
Wenoru wewa	1,396

SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

	£
Halie Ela tank	1,896
Channel from Urupola annicut to Butuwita fields and udua	2,089
Tissa Maha Rama tank	1,439
Denegama and Weangwewa works and channel to Hakmane	788
Urupola annicut	27
Udukiriwila tank	2,549
Batteatota tank (proportionate cost of labour)	2
Digoda tank	308
Elawela tank	1,500

EASTERN PROVINCE.

Channel from Allai to Mutur	1,072
Kadukkamunai Villu	39
Divilane dam	1,328
Senkapada dam	678
Sakamatu Kulam	2,344
Pulukanawa „	2,346
Rugam tank	609
Watte vaykal annicut	622
Alladi odai	1,346
Chadiyantalawa tank	2,470
Ambara extension	1,584
Pariyakulam	538
Kantalai sluice	10

NORTHERN PROVINCE.

Clearing dam at Periyakatto	5

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

Butala Ela dam	750
Horaborawewe	179
Kaduawewa	46
	£32,094

Government Houses at Colombo and Kandy.

14. The following are the reports of the Director of Public Works on these buildings:—

Queen's House, Colombo.

Considerable alterations are necessary in the roofing of the main building, to render it permanently weatherproof, but ordinary repairs will suffice for the present year. The wooden railings which enclose the grounds, and all the gates, are quite rotten.

Kandy Pavilion.

The Pavilion and all its buildings are in very good order, with the exception of the guttering in the roof of the Pavilion, which appears to be defective.

Surveying Department.

15. The Surveyor General reports that during the year 1872, 3,308 lots, containing in extent 18,881 acres, were disposed of for 63,172*l.*, or at an average rate of 3*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* per acre, exclusive of survey fees, which amounted to 4,223*l.*; 1,915 lots, in extent 28,565 acres, were settled on certificates, the survey fees on which realized 2,167*l.* The fees recovered on account of Temple land surveys amounted to 170*l.*, and those for tracings to 234*l.*

16. The total number of lots alienated from the Crown was 5,223, comprising 47,448 acres; and the total sum realized by land sales and fees amounted to 68,825*l.*, being less than the amount received in 1871 by 1,754*l.* This decrease is accounted for by the fact that no money was received in 1872 for plans supplied to the Colombo Municipality; whereas in 1871 a sum of 1,728*l.* was brought to account under this head.

17. The following are the results of the sales in the different Provinces:—

Provinces.	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Purchase Amount.	Average rate per Acre.
		acres.	£	£ s. d.
Western - - -	1,081	4,481	8,693	1 18 9¼
Central - - - -	357	9,358	42,811	4 11 5¾
Southern - - -	461	1,014	5,641	5 11 3
Eastern - - - -	966	2,172	3,415	1 11 5
North-Western - -	408	1,648	2,310	1 8 0½
Northern - - - -	35	206	302	1 9 4

18. The expenses of the department amounted to 25,916*l.*, of which 4,397*l.* were expended on surveys, soundings, and borings of the Colombo Harbour and Paumben Channel, railway extension surveys, meteorological observations, town and Temple land surveys, surveys for irrigation purposes and other miscellaneous work, leaving a balance of 21,515*l.* as the expenditure on the ordinary work of the department.

Railway.

19. The gross receipts for the year amounted to 187,298*l.*, and the working expenses to 73,808*l.*, leaving a profit of 113,490*l.* In 1871 the receipts amounted to 199,605*l.*, and the working expenses to 74,271*l.*, showing a decrease in 1872 in the receipts of 12,307*l.*, and in the expenditure of 463*l.* The decrease in the receipts was occasioned partly by the deficient coffee crop of 1871-72, and partly by the serious interruption to traffic in the months of September and October, owing to the unusually high flood of September last, and also to some extent by the reduction in the rate of passenger fares of about 36 per cent., which came into effect from the 1st of January, 1872.

20. This reduction in the rate of fare has led to a considerable increase in the number of passengers. The number carried during 1872 was 328,320, whilst in 1871 the number was only 211,056, showing an increase of 117,264, or no less than 56 per cent. The greater proportion of this increase was in the third class, in which the number of passengers increased from 199,070 to 313,119.

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21. The tonnage of goods in 1872 was 138,429 against 149,033 in 1871, showing a decrease of 10,604 tons. The decrease was almost wholly in coffee.

22. Owing to the inundation of September, and to heavy earth and rock slips, there was a serious interruption to traffic, and through communication between Colombo and Kandy was suspended for thirty-three days, from September 9th to October 11th, inclusive. The line of railway was seriously injured by the floods, but by the exertions of the railway officials and the contractor, the damages were repaired and communication restored within the comparatively short period stated. In testing the sufficiency of the repairs to one of the bridges injured, 2¼ miles from Colombo, a serious accident occurred attended with loss of life. Whilst the engine was being run on the bridge, the piles in the centre sank and gave way, precipitating the engine into the river, and causing the death of three railway employés: the locomotive foreman, engine driver, and a native fireman.

23. The contractor's seven years' term of maintenance for the lower district of railway from Colombo to Ambepusse terminated on the 30th September, 1872. But as, owing to the injury to the works in consequence of the flood, the contractor was unable to hand over the line in good repair at that date, the term was extended to the 31st December, when the line of railway from Colombo to Ambepusse was handed over to the Government.

24. Satisfactory progress has been made by the contractors, Messrs. Reid and Mitchell, in the construction of the branch railway from Peradeniya to Nawalapitiya. The first portion of the line to Gampola was completed under the contract time, and it was opened for traffic on the 15th January last. But the works on the remaining portion from Gampola to Nawalapitiya are much more heavy and difficult, and it is not expected that this portion can be opened much before the contract time—June, 1874.

Legislation.

25. The following are the Ordinances enacted in the session of 1872:—

No. 1 of 1872 "For making final provision for the supplementary contingent charges for the year 1871," provides for charges incurred and brought to account in 1871, in excess of the votes granted by the supply and supplementary supply Ordinances for that year.

No. 2 authorizes the raising of a loan on debentures of 75,000*l.*, for the extension of the railway from Peradeniya to Nawalapitiya, instead of the loan of 150,000*l.* authorized by the ordinance No. 4 of 1871, the repayment of the loan to be made by annual instalments of 15,000*l.*, commencing from 1875.

No. 3 authorizes a reduction in the number of the ordinary criminal sessions to be held at Kandy from three to two. The measure was introduced with a view to meet the convenience of the planters, but it has not been approved by Her Majesty's Government, and the Ordinance has been disallowed by your Lordship's Dispatch No. 122 of the 30th May, 1873.

No. 4 authorizes the appropriation of a sum of 39,000*l.* from surplus revenues, for the extension of the railway to Nawalapitiya.

No. 5 extends, and makes applicable to the railway from Peradeniya to Nawalapitiya, the provisions of the Ordinance no. 10 of 1865, which laid down regulations respecting the conveyance of passengers, goods, &c., and the working of the railway between Colombo and Kandy.

No. 6. "To prevent the wasteful destruction of buffaloes and game throughout the Island," was introduced in consequence of complaints made by natives as to the wholesale slaughter of deer and buffaloes carried on by large bodies of strangers, who enter the villages in the interior, and who shot down indiscriminately old and young, sometimes merely for the value of the skin. The result has been the almost complete extirpation of deer in some districts, and the complete extirpation of wild buffaloes in others. The destruction of deer depriving the inhabitants of meat, while the loss of the wild buffaloes is felt severely, as the breed is kept up and strengthened by the intercourse of the wild bulls with the tame herds.

No. 7. "Relating to the new edition of the Enactments in force in this Colony," makes certain modifications in the Ordinance, no. 6, of 1867, on this subject, and declares the meaning of the proclamations referred to in that Ordinance.

No. 8. "Amending the Ordinance, no. 1 of 1870," authorizes an increase in the rates of salaries of the officers in the fourth class of the junior branch of the Civil Service, and of the writers on the establishment.

No 9. "To empower commissioners appointed by the Governor to inquire into any matter referred to them for inquiry, to hear evidence thereon," authorizes commissioners thus appointed, upon receiving a commission to that effect from the Governor in executive council, to enforce the attendance of witnesses, and the production of documents which may appear to them to be necessary for arriving at the truth touching the matter of inquiry, as also to administer oaths to persons to be examined before them.

No. 10 empowers police courts to try breaches of rules made by village communities. The object of this Ordinance is to enable village communities to frame their own administrative regulations, and to enforce them by the police courts in districts where it may be inexpedient to establish village tribunals.

No. 11 empowers the municipal councils to increase the tax on carts and hackeries, and to impose a tax on dogs.

No. 12 establishes tolls on certain roads recently completed.

No. 13 makes provision for the supplementary contingent charges for the year 1872.

No. 14. "To provide for the medical wants of the coffee districts," enables districts to make their own arrangements to supply their medical wants, and it empowers planters to make regulations for the medical service of their district. And if any district fails to make such arrangements, or makes arrangements which the Government do not consider to be adequate for the purpose, power is retained for the Government to step in and take the management of the district into their own hands, imposing an assessment not exceeding one rupee per acre in cultivation.

26. The work of the Session of 1872 was unusually protracted,

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and the Council remained in Session until February, 1873, passing seven additional Ordinances, which will be referred to in my report on the Blue Book of the present year.

Public Health.

27. The Principal Civil Medical Officer reports that, owing to the heavy floods which followed a prolonged dry season, fevers and complaints of the bowels became highly prevalent, and that the public health was seriously affected in the year.

28. There was a considerable increase in the number of admissions into the several Government hospitals, the number treated in 1872 having been 11,117, being 2,201 in excess of that of the previous year; but this may in some measure be attributed to the increased hospital accommodation which was provided during the year. The rate of mortality was 12·01 per cent. of sick. In 1871 the death-rate was 10·78, and in 1870, 11·21. There was also an increase in the number of sick among the prisoners, the number of admissions in the several jail hospitals having been 2,930 against 1,953 in 1871. Notwithstanding, however, the unhealthiness of the year, and a high rate of mortality which from exceptional causes prevailed in the Welikada jail in Colombo, the death rate throughout the jails in the whole Island was only 5·05 per cent. against 6·8 in 1871.

29. As regards Welikada it is necessary to point out that long sentence prisoners are received from all parts of the Island, while at the same time the able-bodied are selected from this jail for public works elsewhere; the death rate among those that thus fill this jail must naturally be larger. But taking the average throughout the Colony the death rate is not excessive. The jail is now almost entirely empty, the prisoners having been removed to Hulfsdorf and some of the jails at out stations. Active measures have been adopted to purify the atmosphere of Welikada; and the several recommendations of the Prison Commission for the sanitary improvement of the jail have been carried out.

30. Cholera can scarcely be said to have existed in the Island during the year. There were only 19 cases in hospitals and elsewhere, of which nine died, or 47·36 per cent.

31. Small pox, which prevailed towards the close of 1871, in an epidemic form, in some parts of the Western Province, disappeared soon after the commencement of 1872. Only 609 cases were reported to have occurred throughout the Island in the year, of which the majority were in the Northern Province. Of these 111 died, being at the rate of 18·22 per cent. The deaths were chiefly among those who were unvaccinated, of whom 32·14 per cent. died. Of those vaccinated only 4·70 per cent. died, who showed satisfactory marks of vaccination, and 11·94 per cent. of unsatisfactory marks; thus showing the beneficial influence of vaccination in ameliorating the disease.

Education.

32. The number of schools supported by Government on the 31st December last was 200, and the number of pupils on the list was 10,852, the average daily attendance being 8,597. This shows an increase of 20 schools, as compared with the number in existence in

the previous year, and there is a corresponding increase of 403 in the total number of pupils, with an increase of 802 in the average daily attendance.

33. The expenditure on account of education, as compared with 1871, shows an increase of 2,914*l.*, the total amount expended during 1872 being 26,757*l.*

34. The receipts in 1872 under the head of fees, &c. amounted to 2,457*l.*, being a decrease of 197*l.* as compared with the sum received in 1871. This decrease is more apparent than real, as the amount represents only the net collection for the year, while the fees of the previous year included the commission paid for collecting them.

35. The Director of Public Instruction reports that the working of the Grant-in-aid scheme during the year has been most satisfactory. Grants-in-aid to the amount of 8,249*l.* were given to 402 missionary and private schools, after an examination of the pupils. The number of pupils examined was 14,087, the number receiving instruction in these schools being 25,443. Of the number examined 3,660 were in English teaching schools, 1,893 in Anglo-vernacular schools, and 8,534 in vernacular schools. These results show an increase over the year 1871 of 88 schools and 9,443 children.

36. The returns from the different missionary bodies show an increase of 123 in the number of schools supported by them, and of 6,239 in the number of pupils. The following is an abstract of these schools:—

	No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils.
Society for the Propagation of the Gospel - - -	171	6,323
Church Missionary Society - - - - - -	110	5,510
Wesleyan „ „ - - - - - - -	144	6,545
Presbyterians - - - - - - - - -	4	238
Baptist Missionary Society - - - - - -	33	1,473
American „ „ - - - - - - -	99	5,230
Roman Catholic „ - - - - - - -	150	8,102
	711	33,421

37. The number in 1871 were 588 schools and 27,182 pupils.

38. The number of private schools in 1872 was 365 with an attendance of 9,435, shewing an increase of 945 pupils as compared with the previous year. In 1871, the number of these schools was stated to be 635, Kurunegala alone showing no less than 292 schools. This was clearly an error, which has been rectified in the return for 1872, in which the number of schools at that station is given as only 7.

39. Prefixed to the Blue Book returns will be found a table giving a statistical view of the progress of the Colony for the years 1821 to 1872 inclusive, and an abstract of the principal statistical results for the years 1871 and 1872.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. H. GREGORY.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 19.

DECENNIAL RETURN of EXPORTS of COFFEE, CINNAMON, COCOANUT-OIL, and COIR, the PRODUCE of the COLONY.

Years.	Coffee.			Cinnamon.			Cocoanut-oil.			Coir.			Total Amount of Customs Revenue from the foregoing Exports.
	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	
	cwts.	Rs.	Rs.	cwts.	Rs.	Rs.	galls.	Rs.	Rs.	cwts.	Rs.	Rs.	
1863	828,587	21,262,220	414,290	734,038	367,020	7,340	1,878,535	1,878,580	47,180	51,785	391,030	6,470	475,280
1864	671,164	17,447,930	335,590	776,675	388,330	7,750	2,249,402	2,249,480	56,490	36,313	273,860	4,540	404,370
1865	927,440	23,435,320	463,730	850,973	425,490	8,520	1,176,784	1,206,780	29,550	41,378	316,370	5,160	506,960
1866	897,624	22,868,800	448,820	890,484	445,240	8,900	1,042,853	1,044,000	26,190	46,687	330,350	5,940	489,850
1867	943,592	24,305,360	471,800	1,017,750	508,870	10,180	1,345,485	1,345,480	33,790	49,675	344,460	6,260	521,980
1868	1,007,338	25,639,990	503,670	2,056,509	1,028,250	20,570	1,423,853	1,423,850	35,760	68,804	466,070	8,610	568,610
1869	919,065	23,919,800	459,540	2,684,367	1,342,690	26,850	1,292,065	1,292,060	32,440	64,998	430,130	8,120	526,950
1870	1,054,029	27,530,040	Free	2,191,274	1,095,580	Free	1,688,199	1,688,190	Free	61,666	434,300	Free	Free
1871	945,851	24,324,270	Free	1,368,174	684,100	Free	2,577,700	2,577,700	Free	65,424	454,480	Free	Free
1872	714,168	17,537,138	Free	1,267,953	647,476	Free	3,462,245	3,462,245	Free	67,919	467,942	Free	Free
Total	8,908,858	228,270,868	3,097,440	13,838,197	6,933,046	90,110	18,137,121	18,168,365	261,400	554,649	3,908,992	45,100	3,494,000

Customs, Colombo, 24 June, 1873.

(Signed) W. D. WRIGHT,
Principal Collector.

Enclosure 2 in No. 19.

TOTAL VALUE of IMPORTS and EXPORTS (including SPECIE and BULLION) from each Country in each of the Years 1870, 1871, and 1872.

Countries.	IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.		
	1870.	1871.	1872.	1870.	1871.	1872.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
United Kingdom	15,314,914·71	14,620,502·87	14,893,588·52	29,071,458·75	26,331,689·75	21,396,905· 4
Aden	280·	98·75	1,731·25	—	—	4,649·93
Australia	2,516,136·42	1,849,299·50	1,668,526·11	492,329·46	472,991·37	292,568·14
British Possessions in India	25,590,875·63	27,798,203·46	31,759,668·57	6,623,331·96	6,868,478·79	6,325,542·74
Cape of Good Hope	—	—	1,758· 1	1,919·50	—	—
Hong Kong	288,413·87	182,645·67	223,383·40	68,534·63	316,196·83	144,478·35
Mauritius	380·	24,151·50	1,823·31	132,657·58	63,805·25	56,657·59
Bassora	—	250·	20·	—	—	—
Bourbon	—	1,410·	—	—	—	—
China	—	3,000·	455·	—	3,351·50	11,313·
Dutch Possessions in India	—	—	—	20,921·33	22,470·67	9,110·46
France	7,268·33	50,397·33	145,259·61	812,632·42	276,935·21	342,205·20
French Possessions in India	1,681,482·54	1,778,078·29	1,600,336·87	242,146· 4	256,863·58	279,740·15
Genoa	—	—	—	—	8,965·	44,999·99
Hamburgh	—	—	—	—	449,664·96	7,058·43
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	30,137·33
Juddah	—	200·	—	—	—	—
Lackadive Islands	—	—	5,156·45	—	—	—
Maldive „	335,362· 4	396,835·13	404,269·82	57,091·75	104,133·42	127,762·84
Odessa (Russia)	—	—	—	—	—	6,754·34
Port Said (Egypt)	—	—	—	—	21,057·13	38,192· 7
Rio Janeiro	—	—	75·	—	—	—
Suez	564,342·33	1,272,876·50	980,191·65	26,036·25	254,188·92	44,520·75
St. Francisco	—	—	—	—	88,172·37	—
Trieste	—	—	—	—	170,386·83	747,029· 8
United States of America	43,517·17	1,575·54	—	488,248·25	639,183·71	1,476,644·78
Zanzibar	—	—	—	—	—	3,252·50
Malta	—	—	—	—	—	1,077·34
Total Rs.	46,342,973· 4	47,979,524·54	51,695,243·57	38,037,307·92	36,348,535·29	31,390,600· 5

Customs, Colombo, 7 May, 1873

(Signed) W. HALLILEY,
for Principal Collector.

HONG KONG.

No. 20.

No. 20.

Governor Sir ARTHUR KENNEDY to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Hong Kong,
July 15, 1873.

MY LORD,

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit the duplicate of the Hong Kong Blue Book for the year 1872.

2. I can add but little information to that which the carefully compiled Tables and the Reports of Heads of Departments convey.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The comparative yearly statements show a net increase of revenue in the year 1872 of 16,751*l.*, as compared with the previous year, while there was a net decrease amounting to 11,993*l.* in the expenditure.

Legislation.

4. The legislation during the year calls for no special remarks.

Civil Establishment.

5. The civil establishment appears to be large, but when the peculiar circumstances and climate of Hong Kong are known and considered, I am of opinion that it cannot for the present be materially reduced.

Education.

6. It is unnecessary for me to offer any remarks upon this subject, beyond referring to the satisfactory Report of Mr. Frederick Stewart, the Inspector of Government Schools.

7. The Central School, under Mr. Stewart's able management, is conferring lasting benefits on the present generation, and those to come.

8. The wants which Mr. Stewart points out will be, I hope, met during the coming year.

Shipping.

9. The Harbour Master's Report exhibits very satisfactory results. Table 1 exhibits an increase of arrivals entered of 3,503 vessels, measuring 941,240 tons, carrying 69,144 men. Of the increase of foreign vessels 65 per cent. is in British tonnage, and 35 per cent. of other nationalities.

10. I am happy to find that the Harbour Master, in his magisterial capacity, bears testimony to the advantage resulting from a more vigorous application of hard labour upon seamen committed to the gaol; 7,829 seamen were legally discharged in the Colony, and 8,096 were shipped during the year 1872.

Gaol and Prisoners.

11. A reference to the criminal statistics will show a very satisfactory state of things, when the migratory and mixed nature of the population is considered.

12. The gaol is all that can be desired in order and cleanliness, reflecting great credit upon the superintendent.

13. Various changes in dietary, and especially in the application of hard labour, have been effected within the year.

14. Your Lordship will observe from a Table in the Appendix, showing the number of prisoners in Victoria Gaol on the last day of each week of the year 1872, that the numbers have decreased from a maximum of 596 to a minimum of 371 on the 29th of December, 1872.

15. This result has been arrived at by rendering gaol life more deterrent to habitual criminals.

16. I would here draw your Lordship's attention to a comparative Table showing the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last four years at page 170, Blue Book.

17. As this Table might possibly mislead, without some further information and explanation, I caused it to be referred to the police magistrates for their remarks, a copy of which I enclose (No. 18, dated 8th July, 1873).

18. These gentlemen, who are very independent and competent judges, bear testimony to the fact that serious crime has greatly diminished, while they testify to the improved intelligence and organization of the police force. A drying closet has been obtained from England, and is in process of erection in the gaol, by which a great saving of labour and improvement of health will be effected.

Hospitals.

19. The hospital is perhaps in as satisfactory a condition as the state of an old and unsuitable building will permit. The Acting Colonial Surgeon reports the rate of sickness in the police force as lower than last year (1871), and the rate of mortality "remarkably "low." I think this satisfactory result is mainly attributable to the enlistment of a much more respectable and steadier class of men than have hitherto formed the police force.

20. I cannot controvert the Acting Colonial Surgeon's Report on the Tung Wa, or native hospital. There is much to amend, but there is also much relief given to a class of sufferers who would probably die miserably, rather than submit to European treatment where the knife is used. The native prejudice is infinitely greater than their ignorance in treating surgical cases, which the Acting Colonial Surgeon no doubt with reason condemns.

21. The Tung Wa Hospital is a first experiment; much may be done in the way of amendment by patience and good example, but rash intermeddling with the deep-rooted prejudices of the Chinese population could only result in mischief to an institution which is admitted to afford "comfortable quarters, with good food and clothing, "to a large number of destitute sick." The general, and even scientific treatment of the sick in this hospital, is immeasurably superior to that which could be procured for the sick in remote districts during the famine in Ireland, of which I had the misfortune to see a good deal.

22. A judicious Colonial Surgeon may work a great reformation in the Tung Wa Hospital, by advice kindly given, and good example, followed up by the instruction of some young Chinese in the European system of treatment.

23. The Acting Colonial Surgeon's Report on the health of the

HONG KONG.

gaol is highly satisfactory, and it is gratifying to find that the health of all classes in the gaol is good, while some are better on a system of lower diet and more deterrent labour.

24. Up to the period at which I write no change in dietary or labour of Europeans has been found necessary.

Lock Hospital.

25. The Contagious Diseases Act continues to work well. I hear of no hardship or abuses. Hong Kong, without such a law, instead of being comparatively free from sexual disease, as it now is, would be a perfect pest-house, spreading disease and death among the tens of thousands of British and foreign seamen who frequent the harbour.

Works and Buildings.

26. Though the roads are few, the cost of their up-keep in this climate must always appear disproportionate.

27. A great deal remains to be done in public buildings. A Harbour Master's Office (in process of erection), an enlarged Central School buildings, extended and improved police accommodation, increase of water supply to the town, and a new road to the eastward, in continuation of Caine Road, to relieve the East Praya, which is daily required more exclusively for quayage and mercantile purposes, are all more or less pressingly required. I am of opinion that the expense of these permanent works, together with two projected light-houses, cannot, and ought not, to be borne by the current revenue of the Colony. On this subject I shall have occasion to address your Lordship separately on the arrival of the new Surveyor-General.

Police.

28. The Report of the Captain Superintendent of Police deserves careful consideration.

29. This force, which at no very remote period was openly accused of every discreditable shortcoming and inefficiency, is now, as a body and individually, respectable, and as efficient probably as any colonial police force. The inspectors are, I think, far above the average to be found in colonial police, and many of the men are qualifying themselves to fill any vacancies which may occur.

30. The crime which at one time disgraced this Colony was (here as elsewhere), for the most part, committed by a few professional criminals; these have been effectively hunted down, and driven from the Colony.

31. British Kowloong will always afford a supply of bad characters, but the establishment of a new police station there has, to a great extent, cut off the supply at its source.

32. I feel confident that the police force of Hong Kong (which is improving daily) is now fully equal to the maintenance of order, and the suppression of crime, aided as it is by two police magistrates of great judgment and firmness.

Post Office.

33. The Post Office of Hong Kong, connected as it is with so many outlying branches, and the large amount of business trans-

acted, is an important department, and is most ably administered by the Postmaster-General, whose interesting and exhaustive Report deserves careful perusal.

Registrar-General.

34. It wlll be seen by this officer's Report that the Chinese population is shown by the last Census to have increased.

Public Gardens.

35. A public garden and place of recreation, whereto the inhabitants may resort after the toil and heat of the day, is not only a luxury, but indispensable in a climate such as that of Hong Kong.

36. The Appendix contains the first Report which has been presented by the superintendent, and will be perused with interest.

37. The public of Hong Kong owe a debt of gratitude to my predecessors, Sir Hercules Robinson and Sir Richard MacDonnell, for their inauguration of the public gardens, which will, when completed, equal any in the East.

General Remarks.

38. The general health of the Colony has been good. The people of all classes have been quiet and orderly.

39. The criminal statistics of Hong Kong, long remarkable for its lawlessness, will now, I believe, bear favourable comparison with those of any of Her Majesty's possessions.

40. I am bound to say that I attribute much of this result to the firmness and foresight of my predecessor.

41. I have during my first year of office received valuable aid and the cordial support of the public officers of the Colony, and my Legislative Council have always been ready to support every measure of usefulness.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. C. KENNEDY, Governor.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 18.) Magistracy, Hong Kong,
SIR, July 8, 1873.

With reference to the Minute of his Excellency the Governor, No. 13, of the 1st instant, asking for our remarks in elucidation of the comparative Table at page 170 of the Blue Book for 1872, which shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for 1869, 1870, 1871, and 1872, and especially with reference to the number of offences *reported* to the police, we have the honour to report:—

1stly. That we have no knowledge of the offences reported to the police, save and except such as are brought forward in the court; from general observation, however, we believe that the large excess in this particular over former years has not been from increase of undetected crime.

2ndly. As regards the gradual increase in the number of appre-

HONG KONG.

hensions in each year from 1869 to 1872, and especially the great increase in 1872 over 1871, we are inclined to attribute this partly to the increased strength of the police force, and its improvement in intelligence and organization, and partly to the introduction of new Ordinances prohibiting street cries and certain other nuisances which have considerably swelled the number of cases of a petty character; whilst the crimes of a more serious nature, as the return of committals for trial in the Supreme Court show, have greatly diminished.

We have, &c.,

(Signed) C. MAY,
1st Police Magistrate.

(Signed) A. W. MITCHELL,
Acting Police Magistrate.

The Hon. Cecil C. Smith,
&c. &c. &c.

(True Copy.)
CECIL C. SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

No. 21.

No. 21.

SIR, Suez, 5th June, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will submit to His Excellency the Governor this report on the Blue Book of Penang and Province Wellesley for the year 1872. It will be observed that the figures show in almost every item the increased and increasing prosperity of the Settlement.

1. The following are the principal subjects contained in the Report, and they will be found in the paragraphs indicated.

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Revenue and Expenditure.

The country. 2. First, as to the country and people from whom the revenue is raised :—

The Settlement, which is at the head of the Straits of Malacca, consists of the island of Penang,* 14 miles long by 8 miles broad, which lies 3 miles off the mainland of the Malay peninsula, and of a long strip of that peninsula itself, lying opposite the island. This strip, which is 28 miles long by $8\frac{1}{2}$ broad, is called Province Wellesley. The greater part of Province Wellesley is fertile plain—and the remainder—about one-eleventh of the whole—consists of low wooded hills, the highest of which reaches to 1,843 feet. Two-fifths of Penang is plain and the rest hills—for the most part wooded—which rise to the height of 2,734 feet.

Climate and scenery. 3. The climate is hot but very healthy, and the scenery is beautiful—not unlike that of the West Highlands of Scotland, though with softer features.

Settlement compared with West Indian Colonies. 4. It may give an idea of the relative importance of the Settlement if I say that it has a greater area than most of the West Indian Colonies; that it has a much greater population than any of them, except Jamaica; that it has a far denser population than any of them, except Barbados; and that its imports and exports for 1872 are nearly equal to those of all the West Indian Colonies put together, as they are shown in the returns given in the Colonial Office List for 1871.

Products. 5. The Settlement produces sugar, rice, and cocoanuts in abundance, and among many other products a great variety of delicious fruits. Its chief importance, however, arises from the fact, that the capital of the island—"George Town" or "Penang"—is a great emporium for the manufactures of Britain, and for the products of the countries of the Malay peninsula on the one hand and of Sumatra on the other.

The capital. 6. George Town, or as it is generally called "Penang," contains now probably nearly 60,000 inhabitants, of whom a very large proportion are Chinese—many of them merchants and shopkeepers. It is situated on a low plain stretching out in a point into the sea, on the side of the island next to the mainland, and its harbour, which is simply the almost land-locked strait between the island and the mainland, is of great extent and unrivalled calmness. It has always a large fleet of vessels of every rig, from the finest British steamer to the Chinese junk.

The people. 7. The population of the Settlement is rapidly increasing, and may amount now to 160,000 persons of well-advanced civilization. In 1870, when the population was certainly 20 per cent. less than it is now, it numbered 433 Europeans and Americans, 70,464 Malays, 36,561 Chinese, 9,166 Hindoos, and 6,823 Klings.† The remainder were

* Pulo Penang, i.e. "the Island of Penang," is so called because it contains in abundance the Areca, or betel-nut palm, which in the Straits is called the "Pinang." The official name of the island is "Prince of Wales Island," but it is rarely called so.

† This peculiar but thoroughly adopted name is given to all persons who have come, or whose ancestors came, from the eastern (or Coromandel) coast of India. The language of that country is Telugu, Telingu, or Telinga (the Italian of the East),

Eurasians, Bengalies, Javanese, and native half-breeds, with a few Siamese, Arabs, Singhalese, Armenians, and Jews. STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

8. Such being the country and population, the chief sources of the revenue are the rents of the opium, spirit, bhang, toddy, arrack, and pawnbroking farms; the rent and price of land; judicial, commercial and post office stamps; judicial fines and fees; port and harbour dues, and municipal taxes. Taxes. Fines and fees.

9. The gross revenue, general and municipal, in 1872, was $448,572,* being $36,208 in excess of that in 1871, and $20,250 in excess of the estimate. Total revenue

10. The gross revenue, exclusive of the municipal revenue, but inclusive of the municipal contribution for police, was $382,891, being $16,518 in excess of that of 1871, thus—

Heads.	Revenue in 1871.	Revenue in 1872.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$	$	$	$
Land revenue	35,424	16,484	—	18,940
Opium farm	100,200	100,200	—	—
Spirit farm	77,520	77,520	—	—
Stamps	48,890	62,073	13,183	—
Port and harbour dues	3,835	6,136	2,301	—
Postage	12,640	14,539	1,899	—
Contribution for police from municipality	40,164	40,164	—	—
Miscellaneous	47,700	65,775	18,075	—
Totals $	366,373	382,891	35,458	18,940

11. It is true that the revenue of 1872 was swelled by an exceptional item—the absorption during the year of the Police Superannuation Fund, amounting to $20,914 (shown in the above Table under miscellaneous); but the revenue of 1871 had also an exceptional item in the price, amounting to $13,851, of the land adjoining Beach Street, reclaimed from the sea. The latter fact accounts in a great measure for the land revenue of 1872 being so much inferior to that of 1871. Land revenue.

12. But there were other causes for the decrease in the land revenue. One was the temporary stoppage during greater part of the year of the collection of rents, owing to rent rolls and other documents of the Land Office having been taken to Singapore, and kept there for months for examination in connection with the Loreiro frauds.† Another cause was the suspension of the issue of grants and leases during the same period, in consequence of a very large number of the forms and plans having been detained in Singapore for reasons which I have stated at length in my letter 418, of 28th ultimo, to the Colonial Secretary. This decrease in the land revenue of 1872 will,

and its people are hence called Telingas. This the Malays corrupted into Klingas and then into Klings. From the earliest times there has been much communication between the Coromandel coast and the Malay peninsula.

* In nearly all calculations the Straits dollar is taken as being worth 4*s.* 3*d.*

† These frauds have been elsewhere fully reported upon. To the revenue of 1872 there might have been added 7,000 dollars, the amount realized by the sale of the effects of Loreiro.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

however, go to swell the increase of 1873 by probably $12,000, at least. To this may be added $2,500, the probable amount to which Loreiro has been taking annual toll from the revenue for many a year.

Other revenue.

13. The great increase under the heads stamps, port and harbour dues, and postage, show the increasing wealth and prosperity of the Settlement.

Expenditure.

14. While the gross revenue, general and municipal, in 1872 was $448,572, the gross local expenditure (exclusive of the cost of our two companies of soldiers) under both heads was $319,496, being $16,706 in excess of that of 1871.

15. The gross expenditure exclusive of the municipal expenditure was $268,039, being $6,850 in excess of that of 1871.

Increase.

16. The increase was principally owing to the cost, $11,072·62, of adapting the Sepoy barracks to the Europeans who have succeeded them, and to an increase to the salaries of the police. The miscellaneous expenditure, on the other hand, was lessened by $2,967, and the expenditure on convicts owing to reduced numbers by $2,476.

Coin received.

17. During 1872 silver coin to the amount of $13,750, and copper coin to the amount of $24,450 was received from the Crown agents. On the other hand the Settlement remitted during the year to Singapore, to be absorbed into the general revenue, $171,000, which is $161,220 in excess of the price of the coin we received. The balance in the local bank to the credit of the Settlement on the 31st December was $19,905·27.

Balance in hand.

Assets and liabilities.

18. The assets of the Settlement on the same date, irrespective of the $171,000 sent to Singapore, were $27,105 ; the liabilities $9,643. This is exclusive of a small liability on the part of the municipality, which will be mentioned presently.

Municipality.

19. The municipal council of Penang consists of the Lieutenant-Governor, who is chairman, one other Government officer, and three gentlemen, European or native, elected by the community. The Council has a well-paid permanent secretary. The whole Settlement is included within the municipality. The municipal revenue consists of an assessment of 10 per cent. on the annual value or rent of houses, and 5 per cent. on the annual value or rent of lands ; of an assessment on carriages, carts, and draught cattle ; of a large proportion of the fees and forfeitures in the police courts, and of fees for licences for various trades.

Its revenue and expenditure.

20. The total revenue in 1872 was $105,845, and the total expenditure $91,621. The revenue was $19,689 in excess of that of the previous year, as follows :—

	1871.	1872.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	
House assessment - - -	29,838 11	32,452 25	2,614 14	—
Land „ - - -	13,888 65	14,848 73	960 8	—
Water-rate, &c. - - -	9,138 82	12,076 42	2,937 60	—
Vehicles and cattle - - -	12,972 41	15,588 47	2,616 6	—
Miscellaneous - - -	20,317 41	30,879 29	10,561 88	—
Total - - - $	86,155 40	105,845 16	19,689 76	—

21. The expenditure in 1872 was $91,621, being $9,856 in excess of the expenditure of the previous year, as shown here:—

	1871.	1872.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	
Salaries	5,286 41	5,448 32	161 91	—
Police	40,164 0	40,164 0	—	—
Roads, bridges, &c.	25,151 44	29,514 55	4,363 11	—
Miscellaneous	11,163 25	16,494 50	5,331 25	—
Total $	81,765 10	91,621 37	9,856 27	—

Debt.

22. The debt referred to is $43,500. 34,700 dollars of this sum were borrowed by Colonel Anson to bring water into the town, the greatest boon that has been conferred on it for years. The debt can be easily paid off when it is desirable to do so.

Bright prospects for 1873.

23. Thus both in the general and in the municipal revenue the Settlement has made notable progress in the year under review. But that progress is nothing to what in all probability the progress of the present year will be. I have already pointed out how the temporary withholding of the land revenue of 1872 will only swell the more that of 1873. I have now to add that the opium, spirit, toddy, and bhang farms which for about the last 36 months have been let for $193,099 a year, have been let from the 1st of April for $245,700; an increase of $52,601 per annum.*

	Late Rent.	Present Rent.	Increase.
	$	$	$
*Opium farm	100,200	229,800	52,080
Spirit „	77,520		
Toddy and bhang farms	6,859	6,900	41
Pawnbroking farms	8,520	9,000	480
Total $	193,099	245,700	52,601

* The first two farms are let on these terms to 1st January, 1877, the last two to 1st January, 1876.

Then, again, the re-assessment of the town houses lately begun is certain, seeing how Penang has increased and is increasing in size and in the value of property,* to produce a large increase to the revenue, to be followed by a still larger increase if the lands be also re-assessed.

Opium farm, its moral effects.

24. Of the farms just mentioned, that for the sale of opium is considerably the largest. It owes its value much more to the Chinese population than to any other. To these people the drug is an inestimable luxury, and in my opinion by no means a pernicious one. Cases of extreme indulgence must be rare, for I have never seen them. To the energetic, hard-working, muscular Chinaman his modicum of opium is but a pleasant sedative, no more to him than is his pipe of strong tobacco to the English peasant. Not for one moment can the evils of the use of opium here be compared with the evils of the use of strong drink in Europe. There may be, and doubtless are, men

* Large handsome houses are being daily built by the native merchants in every quarter of the town.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

here who take opium to excess, but they show none of the misery and the poverty, the debasement and the crime, which in other countries arise from indulgence in liquor.

Civil establishments.

25. The changes in the civil establishments during the year have been slight. Its growth has not by any means kept pace with the growth in the trade, the agriculture, the population, and the wealth of the Settlement, nor with the increase in the public business; and the magistrate, the surgeon, the engineer, and the Lieutenant-Governor are all feeling undue pressure from the unavoidably increased work.

Commerce.

Shipping.

26. Mr. Arthur Birch, my predecessor here, called attention in last year's administration Report to the great increase of the shipping at Penang in 1871, as compared with that in the previous year; but the increase of 1872 was greater still. The following statement of the arrivals, which of course were much the same as the departures, sufficiently shows this:—

	Arrivals in		
	1870.	1871.	1872.
Schooners	125	203	223
Brigs	195	103	74
Barques	80	161	150
Ships	37	34	14
Steamers	234	346	482
Junks	671	847	1,860

27. The burthen of these vessels aggregated for 1872, 545,263 tons; for 1871, 389,108 tons, while for 1870 it was only 303,023 tons. The great increase is in the steamers, and although a large proportion of these only call at Penang for a day or less on their way viâ the Suez Canal between Europe and the extreme East, yet they are a great assistance to the trade.

Imports and exports.

28. The value of the total imports of 1872 was $17,306,651; that of 1871, $16,881,639; the value of the exports of 1872 was $19,908,641; that of 1871 $17,197,565.

Principal articles.

29. The following statement shows the proportion of the six principal articles of the commerce of the Settlement imported and exported during the last two years:—

	Imported.		Exported.	
	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.
	$	$	$	$
Tin	3,363,820	4,472,009	3,961,621	4,354,508
Specie	2,969,075	2,807,803	4,012,176	5,173,403
Pepper	2,443,163	1,857,484	1,822,837	2,028,959
Piece goods	1,358,321	1,221,400	1,231,879	1,064,620
Opium	1,307,491	1,129,060	895,295	1,173,014
Rice	1,298,953	1,330,884	834,254	1,444,735
Sugar	5,752	3,308	661,168	710,486
Total $	12,746,575	12,821,948	13,419,230	15,949,725

30. After these in order of importance as exports or imports come nutmegs, tobacco, betelnut, gold, raw silk, twist, and yarn, salt provisions, and gutta percha, followed by many other articles of very considerable importance.

Principal customers for imports.

31. The following statement shows, in the order of their importance as customers, the countries from which we imported most during 1871 and 1872, and the value of the goods imported :—

	Imports.	
	1871.	1872.
	$	$
1. From British India - - - - - - -	3,698,504	1,750,696
2. „ Sumatra - - - - - - - -	3,424,869	3,263,667
3. „ Singapore and Malacca - - - -	2,620,837	2,657,686
4. „ Siam - - - - - - - - -	2,257,407	2,646,108
5. „ Malay Peninsula - - - - -	1,668,203	2,225,006
6. „ United Kingdom - - - - - -	1,578,269	1,393,307
7. „ Hong Kong - - - - - - -	1,352,959	1,352,572
Total - - - $	16,599,048	15,289,042

For exports.

32. And this statement gives the same information as regards exports :—

	Exports.	
	1871.	1872.
	$	$
1. To United Kingdom - - - - - -	3,949,805	4,857,451
2. „ Sumatra - - - - - - - -	3,157,629	3,277,847
3. „ Singapore and Malacca - - - -	2,339,662	3,021,764
4. „ British India - - - - - - - -	2,014,500	1,112,283
5. „ Malayan Peninsula - - - - -	1,930,724	1,896,076
6. „ Siam - - - - - - - - -	1,918,882	2,022,988
7. „ Hong Kong - - - - - - -	1,012,187	1,348,286
Total - - - $	16,323,389	17,536,695

Trade probably under estimated.

33. Large as is the commerce shown by these figures it is larger in reality, for the Harbour Master informs me that the full amount of the cargo of many of the vessels, especially native vessels, both arriving and departing, is often not reported, and that some arrivals and departures are not reported at all. Sailing to the ports of semi-civilized countries as many of the vessels trading with Penang do, it is difficult to prevent this irregularity. On the other hand, some times the value of cargoes is over-estimated, and this is said to be the case with regard to specie, and to account for the exports of specie appearing so much larger than the import. I believe, however, that much of the difference arises from the import being under-estimated.*

* The fact that Penang is a free port accounts in a great measure for the import and export returns being less accurate than they ought to be.

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Pepper.

34. The value of pepper imported from Sumatra in 1872, was less than the value imported in 1871, and consequently the value of piece goods and of opium exported was also less.

Imports from British India.

35. The large falling off in the imports from British India is accounted for in two ways. The first is that many articles from Europe which used to come viâ India have ceased to do so since vessels have largely used the Suez Canal. The second is that the temporary stop to the importation of Indian Coolies deprived the Coolie ships of their principal vocation, and when they ceased to ply the goods they used to bring ceased to arrive. These goods were for the most part salt, sacking, hides, copperware, piece goods, seeds, earthenware, curry, stuffs, and shark fins.

Penang wharf.

36. The great and rapidly increasing commerce is every day demanding more and more accommodation for the lading and unlading of ships, especially of the canal steamers, which can afford to pause here but a few hours on their long run between Japan or China and England. The present small jetty is totally inadequate to the requirements of the place, and accordingly during the year under review a scheme for a suitable wharf has been carefully matured. The work is delayed pending the settlement of the extent of concession of foreshore to be made by Government to the promoters.

Agriculture.

Crops and acreage.

37. As regards cultivation, the Settlement is at present laid out as follows:—

	Acres.	Acres.
Area of the Island of Penang	—	68,000
„ Province Wellesley	—	149,000
Under rice	65,200	
„ cocoanuts	37,150	
„ sugar	14,000	
„ Penang or Areca trees	10,100	
„ Tapioca	2,200	
„ Nepah	1,900	
„ Nutmegs	1,680	
„ Tea	30	
Site of George Town		376
Roads, rivers, &c.		3,750
		136,386
Uncultivated		81,734
Of which uncultivable		500

Cocoanut groves.

38. It is to be observed that the sites of all villages and houses are included in the acreage under cocoanuts; the reason being that houses everywhere are in the midst of groves of the cocoanut palm. These useful trees, standing close together like so many umbrellas, leave a cool shaded space for 50 or 60 feet below their lowest leaves—

a space in which the slightest breeze is but little hindered by the straight slender stems of the trees.

Soil.

39. Some of the low land in Province Wellesley is rich, dark alluvial soil, which has probably at one time been covered by the sea. Much of it is sandy, and is probably of purely diluvial formation. The soil of the hills is in most places a ferruginous sandy loam, rather poor in quality.

Government land.

40. There now remain about 76,000 acres belonging to Government to sell or lease. The selling rate ranges as high as 10 dollars an acre, and the rent as high as 60 cents. an acre.

Rice imported.

41. The rice grown in the Settlement is not sufficient for its own wants, and it consequently imports, chiefly from British Burmah, about half a million dollars' worth annually for local consumption.

Sugar extending.

42. Sugar cultivation is extending. A new plantation of great value and extent was started during the year by Mr. Brown, a gentleman who is the largest landowner in the Settlement. Like all the other sugar estates, it is in Province Wellesley. The larger properties belong to the Right Honourable Edward Horsman, but there are extensive properties in other European hands, and in the hands of Chinamen. The machinery on the larger estates is very expensive, but the sugar is of excellent quality, and pays well. It finds its way all over the world, but the United Kingdom, which last year bought $341,793 worth, and Singapore and Malacca, which bought $147,432 worth, are the best customers. The rum made with the sugar is held of little value.

Whither exported.

Indian Coolie immigration.

43. A considerable danger menaced the sugar estates in the early part of 1872, namely, the stoppage of Coolie immigration from India; for although there are plenty of Chinese Coolies, they are in many ways not so useful on a sugar estate as the Indians are, while they are probably more expensive. A fear arose in India that the Coolies were ill-treated here—the men physically and the women morally; and the tide of Coolies, which for a long time had flowed regularly from the Coromandel coast was suddenly checked. Some inquiry having shown, however, that the fancied ill usage did not exist, the restrictions were removed pending legislation on the subject, and the Settlement received 3,256 Indian Coolies during the year.

Coolies well treated.

44. The temporary withholding of the Coolies was not called for. I have seen the Straits Estate Coolies in their houses, in their hospitals, and at their work, and I have no hesitation in saying they are far better off here than in their own homes, and quite as well as in Ceylon, where the Coolies' lot is considered by no means a bad one. Ten years' experience of India and six of Ceylon may give this evidence some weight.

Sugar crop, 1872.

45. The sugar crop of 1872 was to some extent lessened, owing to an insufficiency of rain, but this year there is excellent promise, all the more that, to use the words of a very competent authority, "Cane disease, which first appeared about the year 1866, "and did so much damage during the four or five following years, "seems to be gradually disappearing."

Tea cultivation very promising.

46. The tea cultivation here is an experiment which may have the most valuable results for the Settlement. The state of matters at present is, that 15 acres in Province Wellesley, sown at intervals

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within these 4 years with Assam seed, are now producing plentifully tea of first-rate quality, and that the company * who have tried the experiment have now applied for 300 acres to carry it out on a large scale. They have been offered the land they ask for, for 99 years, at a dollar per acre down, and an annual rent of 30 cents. per acre. This offer they will probably accept, and, in the event of their success, many thousands of acres of land in the Province, similar to that on which the tea is now growing—land worth very little at present—will become very valuable indeed. The 15 acres now under tea are low hills covered with poor jungle, and, strange to say, they are only from 100 to 200 feet above sea level. The soil is that already mentioned as a ferruginous sandy loam, of rather poor quality. The tea is of strong body and strong fine flavour, and Mr. De Mornay, the manager of the estate which produces it, considers that the plant probably arrives at maturity in the Province a year earlier than it does in Assam; that is, in 5 instead of 6 years. Here it gave a small crop in its second year, and a better one each succeeding year. It has fetched at home 2*s.* per lb., the price of the Assam teas, which, I believe, is one quarter more than the price of ordinary China teas. It is to be hoped that the experiment will succeed, for the cost of establishing a tea estate of 300 or 400 acres is about, I believe, 10,000*l.*

Doubly valuable to Government.

47. On Government account, too, it is to be hoped it will succeed. Not only would there be great gain from land sales and leases, but the opium revenue would rise immensely with the additional Chinese population which new estates would bring.

Nepahs.

The Nepah mentioned in the 37th paragraph is a palm, which grows in moist ground, and which is peculiar in having little or no stem—the leaves springing from the ground. The leaves are very valuable, as being the best thatching material in the Straits.

Public Works.

Barracks.

49. Little new work of importance under this head was done in 1872. The adaptation of the Sepoy barracks to European troops cost $11,072·62. The whole expenditure on public works during the year came to $64,654. This is exclusive of the large expenditure of the municipality. All the public buildings and roads were kept in good repair, several miles of new road were made, and between 20 and 30 miles of new road were raised, widened, metalled, or otherwise improved. A bridge was constructed at Soonghy Tumboos and one at Soonghy Bacow, and a pier at Butterworth.

Municipality.

50. Within the municipality several new and useful roads were projected during the year, and one which has been finished, the Esplanade road, is a great boon to the inhabitants. It is a drive and walk by the seaside in the only open space near the town, and is now a favourite evening resort for all classes. It commands a beautiful view. A year ago it was a beach so offensive as to be carefully

* The Penang Plantation Company, Limited. It has a large tapioca estate in Province Wellesley, and it is there that the tea experiment has been tried.

avoided. The European cemetery has been much improved. A year ago it was confined in its limits, and low and swampy; and, moreover—surrounded by high black walls—it was hideous and dreary-looking—more, in fact, like a prison than anything else. It has now been much enlarged, raised in part, laid out in broad walks, and planted; and the improvement is very great, not only to the cemetery itself, but to the part of the town in which it is situated.

51. During the year a very useful ward was added to the Poor-house, of which more hereafter.

Much to be done.

52. There is much to be done in the town yet, and there is plenty of money with which to do it. Penang, i.e. "George Town," is rapidly increasing in size, and is quite capable of becoming a very beautiful as well as a very commodious town. The first great want is drainage, and this, I believe, will be undertaken soon after the arrival of the new engineer, who is expected this month. Then the swamps towards the Powder Magazine should be filled up. The water pipes, too, will probably soon need renewal, as, owing to the want of a reservoir at their source, they are constantly scoured by a large quantity of silica. The reservoir referred to should be constructed. As for the introduction of gas, that has been delayed this year only because of the abnormal price of iron. Our ground is bought and paid for, and ready for the works. The success of the Gas Company will be all the more, owing to the late discovery of excellent cheaply-obtainable coal in the neighbouring Island of Sumatra.

Drainage.

Sea-road.

53. Another great improvement to Penang will undoubtedly come within a few years—the construction of a sea-wall and broad road southward from the present jetty for the whole length of the town. This would relieve Beach Street of much of the traffic which over-crowds it—it would enhance the value of the Beach Street property—and it would enable Penang to present to the sea a handsome front instead of the present reeking mud-banks. It would also, I believe, render the town healthier.

Administration of Justice.

Crime statistics.

54. The new tabular statements of the statistics of crime called for from the registrar of the Supreme Court, from the magistrates and from the superintendents of police, have not, I fear, in all cases been thoroughly understood, and I am not sure that the figures are quite correct. So far as I can make them out I shall here briefly notice their more prominent features.

Number of cases increased.

55. Of the two magistrates in the Settlement the magistrate of Penang, with his one Court, has much more work than the magistrate of Province Wellesley has with his three; thus—

	1871.	1872.
Penang magistrate, criminal cases -	3,631	5,397
Province „ „ -	1,588	1,859
Total for the Settlement -	5,219	7,256

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Besides which there were the civil cases, which in the Penang magistrate's Court amounted to 1,529 during 1872.

56. The figures just given show that the criminal cases were 2,037 more than in 1871—an increase which the magistrates attribute, I think, very reasonably—to the constant increase in population. The late Penang magistrate, Mr. Presgrave, however, says that the more heinous offences have not kept pace with the others, and he considers that this is due to the fact that the worst class of our population, the newly-imported Chinamen, have all gone off to take a part in the fight which for more than a year has been devastating the neighbouring State of Laroot.

Principal cases.

57. Of the persons tried in the Supreme Court in 1872 for criminal offences, 105 were convicted, against 91 in 1871. In 1872 six persons were sentenced to death, four to penal servitude for life, three for above 20 years, one for above 10 years, 10 for above five years, and the remainder for shorter periods.

Fines.

58. The fines and fees in the Police Courts of the Settlement were as follows:—

			Increase.
	$	$	$
Penang - - -	11,124	15,395	4,271
Province Wellesley - -	2,585	5,019	2,434
Total - -	$13,709	20,414	6,705

New penal code.

59. Both the magistrates anticipate excellent results from the introduction towards the close of the year of the new penal code, and I have no doubt that their anticipations will be fulfilled, judging from the success of the Indian penal code, which this code so nearly resembles, and from which in fact it has been taken.

Penang Court over worked.

60. The work of the Penang Court has become too great for one magistrate. This I believe from my own observation; and the present magistrate, the late acting magistrate, and the Solicitor-General, fully confirm the belief. Mr. Presgrave, who was acting in 1872, wrote as follows at the close of the year:—

"In my opinion the business of the Police Court, with that of the Court of Requests, is more than one magistrate can discharge without feeling that the despatch so urgently necessary in order to get through the work is detrimental to the cause of justice. The delay in hearing cases consequent upon the system leads to numerous cases being withdrawn, and false evidence is encouraged by the magistrate not having time to put a witness through a long and searching examination. It is one thing to disbelieve a witness and another to drag the truth piecemeal from him, and show that he has committed perjury. It is perhaps anticipated that the proposed new Ordinance by which the jurisdiction of the Court of Requests will be much more limited than at present will afford relief to the magistrate. I think, however, such relief will hardly be appreciable. The practice of counsel in the Police Court is much more frequent than in former years, and all cases in which counsel are engaged are much more technically conducted and prolonged."

61. During the year, his Excellency, on my recommendation, appointed among others, three native gentlemen Justices of the Peace. Two of these are Chinese merchants of high standing and of wealth —Tye Sin and Lee Pee Chuan. The third is Vapoo Noordin, a Kling merchant; the representative of a numerous, rich, and influential family. These gentlemen are proud of their new position—held in this Settlement for the first time by any of the native community—and they are capable of being, and indeed have already been, of much use. Twice during the year when it seemed not unlikely that a Chinese riot would break out in the town, these gentlemen gave me their advice willingly, and brought to bear their undoubted influence in the cause of order.

Native justices.

62. There are 366 policemen of all ranks in the Settlement, and they cost in all $46,000 a year. Of these 231, under Superintendent Captain Speedy, are in the Island of Penang, and 133, under an Assistant Superintendent, are in Province Wellesley. The whole force is distributed over 19 stations. Relatively to its circumstances the force is perhaps fairly satisfactory, but positively it is not satisfactory. The circumstances referred to are the comparative newness and imperfection of the present organization, and the smallness of the pay of the subordinate ranks.

Police

Not quite satisfactory.

63. From the former circumstance few of the officers or men know what thorough police duty is, and from the latter the material obtainable is by no means the best for the purpose. As the Superintendent represents, the pay of the most ordinary menial here is more than the $5 a month which is the pay of a 3rd-class constable, and the pay of a 3rd-class constable in Ceylon, a cheaper country than this, is more than the pay of a 1st-class constable here.

Underpaid.

64. The most satisfactory point I have noticed with regard to the police of this Settlement, is the smallness of the open enmity they appear to have provoked. Contrary to the custom in the East, complaints against them are seldom made. On the other hand they are not very successful in bringing to justice the more prominent criminals, nor in recovering stolen property. One reason for this is that whilst a large proportion of the criminals are Chinese, there is hardly a Chinaman, if there is one at all, in the force. Invariably in Western India it has been found that a criminal tribe is most effectually and most speedily repressed by a police raised from its own body. It was by carrying this theory into practice, first with the Bheels of Rhandesh, and next with the kolies of Goozerat, that Sir James Outram first rose into notice.

Chinese element required.

65. In connection with the administration of justice, it may be mentioned that the criminal and civil jails have been much improved during the year under review, both as regards security and sanitation. It may also be mentioned that on the many occasions on which I have had to seek the assistance of the Rajah of Keddah for the recovery of criminals escaped into his territory, I have received the most hearty and valuable assistance from him.

Jails.

Keddah Rajah's help.

Education.

66. This is perhaps the least satisfactory subject connected with the settlement. The means of education have ever been, and still are,

Unsatisfactory.

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very small and very imperfect, and the alleged apathy of the Malays on the subject is but a doubtful excuse, if it can be considered an excuse at all. I say alleged, for I know of no more apt or successful scholars than the Malay children of the late rifle regiment in Ceylon. However, a little life is at last beginning to animate the subject, and in the appointment this year of an Inspector of Schools, the nucleus of an educational department has been formed.

Present appliances.

67. The educational appliances of this Settlement at present are two large boys' schools and one girls' school in George Town, in which a plain English education is given; one smaller school of the same kind in the country; eleven small village schools in which reading, writing, and cyphering in the Malay and Chinese languages * are taught; and a large number of regular assemblages of Malay children, which hardly deserve the name of schools. All the children do at these places is to learn from the village priest to intone, in Arabic, portions of the Koran—neither teachers nor taught understanding one word they repeat.

68. There are besides, a Roman Catholic college and a few Chinese schools, which the Chinese look after themselves, and in which their own language is taught. The college has little to do with the Settlement beyond being located in it. It brings here and educates about 100 Anamese, Chinese, Siamese, and Burmese youths to be teachers and priests in their own countries. It is supported by a French Society for the Propagation of the Faith, and is conducted for the most part by French priests. It has existed for sixty-five years, and has contributed in Anam and elsewhere not a few martyrs to the faith.

69. The Penang Island free school, which is the principal educational institution in the Settlement, has improved during the year under review. The average number of boys on its books was 348 in 1871, 372 in 1872, and is now 419. This school is free only in the sense of being open to all creeds. It is supported by school fees, by voluntary contribution, and by a grant from Government of $1200 per annum. Notwithstanding that its circumstances are very narrow, a second trained master was imported during the year from England, making six masters in all. I have earnestly applied to have the grant raised from $1,200 to $2,200, and I think this will shortly be done. Most of the scholars are Chinese, but there is also a considerable number of Klings and Eurasians, with a sprinkling of English boys. The school is important as educating all our native merchants, and most of our clerks and subordinate employés; and especially as training lads of the most diverse creeds to live with each other on terms of the greatest amity. The institution is much indebted to the Rev. Julian Moreton, its Honorary Secretary, whose multifarious duties as chaplain tax to the utmost his earnestness and activity.

Roman Catholic schools.

The Roman Catholic community, although by no means large or rich, does far more than any other for the education of this Settlement. Several months ago the Roman Catholic Bishop appealed to Government for more help, and after careful inquiry I was able to report upon his appeal as follows:—

* Chinese is taught in only one.

"The Roman Catholic schools in this settlement are:—

"*For Boys.*—Pooloo Tikoos Seminary; Brothers School, George Town; Pooloo Tikoos School; Balé Pooloo School.

"*For Girls.*—St. Maur's School and Orphanage; Pooloo Tikoo's School; Balé Pooloo School.

The "Brothers" school.

"Regarding the boys' school, taught by the Brothers in George Town, which the Bishop mentions first, I examined it very carefully, and consider that a great deal is done for a very small sum of money. A very little more money would, however, work a vast improvement. The whole machinery of the institution gave me the idea that it was cramped by poverty, and narrowed in its scope by isolation from the latest systems of education. Worthy, earnest men, as I believe the four Brothers to be, who devote themselves for a mere pittance (about $17 a month each) to this school, I consider that their teaching would be improved under the supervision of a well-chosen Government Educational Inspector. When I told the Brothers and Father Manissol, the Roman Catholic chaplain of Penang and Supervisor of all the Roman Catholic Schools, that an additional grant would probably be given under the condition that their schools should be subject to Government inspection, and its continuance be dependent on commensurate results, they did not seem to object. The school is undoubtedly of great benefit to Penang. Its whole income is but $1,500, and for this it not only educates about 200 boys, but entirely supports a few of them, who are orphans. During last year there were five orphans so supported at a cost of $240. The following are some of the other items which were met out of the $1,500 during the same year:—the salaries of the teachers (four in number), $840; repairs to the school-rooms, orphanage, and Brothers' home, $113; the salary of the one servant in the establishment, $48; and miscellaneous charges, $204. These miscellaneous charges are—passage-money of some new teachers lately arrived, and the charges on account of sickness in the establishment, and the cost of prizes and stationery. It can hardly be said that so small an income is wasted, when it brings up to the age of 14 or 15 a constant supply of 200 boys accustomed for years to a decent and orderly mode of life, and launched in the world capable of speaking at least two languages fluently, and of reading and writing one of them—English—freely,—boys many of whom but for this institution would inevitably become vagabonds.

"Of the $1,500 per annum necessary for the upkeep of the school, $900 are given by Government, about $280 are obtained from school fees, and the remaining $320 are contributed with much difficulty by the Roman Catholic Church and the Roman Catholic community of Penang—a community which is by no means rich. Nor are all the boys at the institution Roman Catholics; for among them are 7 Protestants and 17 'pagans.' As for the nationality of the 204 who appear on the books, it is as follows:—

Europeans	6
Eurasians	165
Chinese	26
Klings	2
Uncertain	6

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"The school is divided into six classes. The boys in the first read English well, and evidently understand what they read; but they both read and speak with a foreign accent, owing to their teachers being nearly all Frenchmen. Their knowledge of geography is very fair, as is also their handwriting; but they are not so good at arithmetic, and they are decidedly weak in writing from dictation.

"The other five classes are, of course, less instructed in due gradation down to the last class, in which the children are taught the English alphabet through the medium of the Malay language.

* * * * * * *

"On the whole, I consider that the Government grant to the Brothers' school should be raised at once from $900 to $1,200 per annum; that the school should be placed under the supervision of the Government Educational Inspector, soon to be appointed; and that the question of a further increase to the grant, and even of its continuance at its present amount, should depend upon his report of the school's progress.

St. Maur's Orphanage.

"The St. Maur's School and Orphanage, or 'The Convent,' as it is popularly called, is one of the most excellent institutions in Penang. It has been in existence during many years, and has sent into the world great numbers of excellent wives and mothers, many of whom but for its succour would have perished in infancy, or grown up for a worse fate. The buildings of the institution belong to the Roman Catholic community. They are large, wholesome, and charmingly situated on the sea-side. The teachers are nine Sisters of the order of 'The Holy Infant Jesus,' presided over by the Rev. Mother St. Appollinaire. The institution, which costs $6,800 per annum, is maintained by an allowance of $1,000 per annum from Government; by school and boarding fees, amounting to $1,500; and for the rest, by alms sent from France, by the profits of a wareroom kept on the premises for the sale of French millinery, and by the needlework of the teachers and of the pupils. The average number of girls is 200, and they are of every race and age, from babies a few days' old to young women fully grown up. There are 114 foundlings, or orphans, entirely supported and educated by the institution; 13 boarders, whose relations defray altogether or in part the moderate charges of the establishment; and 75 day scholars, only 40 of whom pay wholly or in part their school fees.

"I very carefully examined this institution, and was pleased with all I saw. It was clean and orderly from attic to cellar, and the inmates looked clean and healthy and happy, from the three or four friendless babies lying asleep together to the young Chinese women chatting pleasantly over their needlework of the husbands and homes to which they were going a few days later. Chinamen, who have become successful farmers in Province Wellesley, are particularly given, I believe, to seek wives from these convent girls. Of course they see little of them before the marriage; but I am told the unions generally turn out most happily, and that the women never cease to visit at intervals their old home and their excellent mother—to bring her little presents, and to show her their children.

"Of the girls borne on the books, the different races are represented as follows:—

Europeans - - - - - - -	15
Eurasians - - - - - - - -	132
Klings (Madrassees) and Siamese - -	56

of whom 190 are Roman Catholics, 10 Protestants, and 3 'pagans.'

"The girls are taught, some in English and some in Malay. The European and Eurasian girls and the native girls, with a view to their probable—indeed almost certain—future, are taught apart and taught differently. The intellectual education imparted struck me as being very fair; but undoubtedly the moral education is the better of the two. The calmness and regularity, the constant attention to duty and to piety, and the cheerfulness and happiness of the life they lead, cannot fail to affect their whole future. There is no doubt that in this institution, as well as in the Brothers' school, the advice and assistance of a Government Inspector would be of much value, and a little more pecuniary aid would be well bestowed, especially at the present time, when the alms from France have necessarily become restricted. I would advocate the grant being increased from $1,000 to $1,200, subject to after modification by the Inspector of Education.

Poolo Tikoos seminary.

"The other Roman Catholic educational establishments may be disposed of in a few words. The seminary at Pooloo Tikoos educates for the Roman Catholic ministry 100 young men from almost every country in the East. It is supported by a French Society for 'the 'Propagation of the Faith,' and no assistance is asked for on its behalf. It appears to be well and carefully conducted.

Boys' school.

"The Poolo Tikoos boys' school (Pooloo Tikoos is a village $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from George Town) has an average of 27 pupils of the average age of nine years. It has one teacher. The English language alone is taught. The school has been in existence for 40 years, and is open to all creeds. Its total cost is $250 per annum. Charitable Roman Catholic societies in Europe allow $48 per annum towards its maintenance. The remaining cost must be raised by the missionaries as they best can.

Girls' school.

"The Poolo Tikoos girls' school has an average of 50 pupils, whose ages average 10 years. There are two teachers, receiving together as salaries $192 per annum, and the whole cost of the school is $276. The language taught is Malay, printed in the Roman character. For the rest the remarks just made about the Pooloo Tikoos boys' school apply equally to this school.

Balé Pooloo boys' school.

"The Balé Pooloo boys' school (Balé Pooloo is a district 9 miles from George Town) has an average attendance of 25 pupils of the average age of nine. It has one teacher, whose pay is $120 per annum, and the whole cost of the school is $192 per annum. In this school the Chinese language is taught. For the rest, the concluding remarks regarding the last two schools are applicable here also.

Girls' school.

"The Balé Pooloo girls' school has an average attendance of 20 girls, whose ages average 11. It has one teacher, on $96 per annum, and the whole cost of the establishment is $204 a year. The language taught is Malay printed in the Roman character. This school is maintained in the same manner as are the three immediately preceding.

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New schools.

"Regarding these four last schools, and also regarding two others —a boys' school and girls'—which the Roman Catholic community wish to establish at Bukit Martajam, in Province Wellesley, for the teaching of all comers in Chinese and Malay (respectively) written in the Roman character, I would suggest that the question of a grant in aid be left for the decision of the Educational Inspector. There is no doubt the four schools in existence do good, and will do good, but I am not sure that teaching Chinese is advisable, or that the use of the Roman alphabet for either Chinese or Malay is desirable, or that the schools might not be better under a different system. But, on the whole, I think that eventually about $60 each per annum might be given to the four schools actually in existence, and to the two others that would soon spring up but for the poverty of the Roman Catholics.

"To sum up:—

"The Roman Catholic community teach daily in this Settlement about 537 children, a large number of whom they further entirely maintain, at a cost of $9,171 per annum, of which Government contribute $2,036, including $136 given to the Roman Catholic clergyman for his general superintendence. The Roman Catholics earnestly appeal through their Bishop for help, and after careful investigation I recommend an increased grant in aid of $500 per annum, and another possible increase on the report of the Educational Inspector of $240 to four vernacular schools now in existence, and $120 to two others, which only poverty prevents being called into existence."

Vernacular schools.

71. It only remains to mention the few vernacular schools other than those of the Roman Catholics. The one at Glugar, to which a Government allowance of $120 per annum is made, has been mentioned. Another, a small Christian Tamil school, has recently been opened in George Town by the chaplain. For all other vernacular education a sum of $500 was voted for the year 1871, and this was devoted by Mr. Arthur Birch, aided by Mr. Skinner, the magistrate of Province Wellesley, to introducing into a few of the village schools in that district some little instruction in the Malay language, in addition to the mere parrot-like learning of Arabic texts. The attempt was fairly successful, and during 1872 the Government grant, which had been raised to $1,120 (including the special grant of $120 to the vernacular school at Glugar), was, with Mr. Skinner's continued aid, very profitably laid out, on the principle of payment by results. I have urged that for the present year the grant for vernacular schools should be doubled, and I trust it will be so.

Prospects.

72. The Settlement has probably at least 160,000 inhabitants. It had in 1872 a gross revenue (which is now greatly increased) of $448,572, and yet in that year it had no educational officer, and contributed to education but $3,356 per annum. It has now, however, had since January last an Educational Inspector who, I presume, will exercise some of the functions of a director of education, and I hope and believe that one of the first duties of this officer will be to apportion a liberal grant to the various schools.

Charitable Institutions.

73. The only two charitable institutions in the Settlement are the Anti-mendicity Society's Hospital, and the Poolo Jerajah Leper Asylum.

Anti-mendicity Society.

74. At the end of 1872 the average number of sick paupers in the Anti-mendicity premises was over 155, a far larger number than it had had for many years, and the average number now is much higher. The premises have been very much enlarged and improved during the year, and the inmates are comfortable and well attended to. As formerly reported, the institution was maintained by public subscription and by a very small Government allowance. The committee of management and the Honorary Secretary (Mr. Bradford, who has been most useful to the institution) all took the greatest interest in it. It has now been taken more into Government hands, though the committee of management still exists. The change will doubtless maintain the establishment in better order, but it is likely to cost far more to Government, as the public will hardly subscribe as liberally as before. I have, however, managed to collect this year already* nearly $1,200.

Leper asylum.

75. There are generally from 22 to 25 lepers in the Poolo Jerajah Hospital, and they are perfectly contented with their quarters and with their treatment. The portions of the premises occupied by them have been much improved, and the Island, which was very malarious, when first occupied, is now healthy. The one great drawback to Poolo Jerajah as the site of the asylum is that it is eight miles from Penang jetty—the hospital itself being nine miles. It is very difficult to visit it often at such a distance.

Superintendence and inspection insufficient.

76. The duty of superintending these two establishments, in addition to his other work, bears hardly upon Dr. Veitch, the Colonial Surgeon. I have therefore, with the full approval of the Anti-mendicity Society's committee of management, applied to have an assistant appointed.

Much owing to Mr. Birch.

77. Although very much has been done to improve both these institutions since Mr. Arthur Birch was here, their present importance is mainly due to him. Before he took the matter up, lepers and miserable creatures suffering from other diseases and from want were everywhere to be found in the streets, while the Anti-mendicity Hospital was half empty, and the Poolo Jerajah Hospital altogether deserted.

Military.

Arrival of European troops.

78. In April, 1872, the wing of a Madras Native Infantry regiment, which, with a small detachment of artillerymen, had constituted the garrison of Penang, was withdrawn on being relieved by two companies of Her Majesty's 80th regiment. The cost of adapting the Sepoy barracks to the wants of European soldiers amounted, as has already been stated, to $11,072·62. Some time after their arrival the new troops had a good deal of sickness, and nine of them died; a result attributable partly to the sickliness of the season, and partly to the want of acclimatization of the men who had just come

* Written in May.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

from Ireland, and many of whom were young and unseasoned. While it is doubtful whether the European detachment of two companies would be as serviceable as the native troops on an emergency like that which took the wing of the Sepoy regiment to Salangore in 1871, there is no doubt that their presence here would be most valuable should there occur a riot like those which have more than once seriously disturbed this place. I believe Penang now pays for its garrison $90,000 per annum.

Political.

Disturbances in Laroot.

79. The commerce of Penang so much depends upon the native States in the neighbourhood, that our relations with them should receive much attention. The condition of affairs during the last year in a country of great importance to us has been most unsatisfactory. The kingdom of Perak,* a short distance south of us, and marching with Province Wellesley, has been in a state of anarchy for more than a year. Especially has this been the case with regard to its northern district, Laroot, whose rich mines supply a very large portion of the tin that comes to the Penang market. Perak is governed by a Sultan, and Laroot by a Chief called the Toonku Muntri, subordinate to the Sultan. The Toonku Muntri's revenue, although he has a large extent of country, comes mainly from his tin mines. These mines are worked by Chinamen, whose head men belong to Penang, and who work with capital obtained from Penang. In and about the mines there were from 30,000 to 40,000 Chinamen at the beginning of 1872.

Their origin.

80. Above a year ago these Chinamen had a quarrel and a fight, which grew from bad to worse until at length the majority of them formed themselves into two great factions which have gone on fighting ever since, and have repeatedly made the neighbourhood of the mines a scene of horrible carnage. Sometimes one faction gains the upper hand and drives the other out of the country, taking possession of their valuable mines and works. The faction driven out obtains money from Penang and men and arms from China and England, and within a few months the struggle is renewed until the lately beaten party has become victorious. Then the party last driven out take to recruiting as their antagonists had done—and so the game goes on, with, so far, no appearance of coming to an end. Meanwhile a fine country is to a great extent laid waste, its Malay inhatants are injured and distressed, and its Rajah, the Toonku Muntri, his revenue gone and his house in the hands of the Chinamen, is driven into our territory, and is vainly imploring us to help him. He cannot get assistance from his own sovereign, the Sultan of Perak, because there is a dispute as to who the real sovereign is. The old man, Ismäel, who is actually on the throne, was not the proper heir to it, but he was the next to the heir, Abdoola, and being preferred by most of the influential people to Abdoola, who is held in little esteem, he was placed by them on the throne. Ismäel lives quietly

* Pronounced almost like "Pera." The terminal "k" in Malay words is scarcely sounded at all.

in the interior of his country and takes little heed of public affairs. Abdoola, supported in a lukewarm way by a few influential men, but without wealth or credit, wanders discontentedly, sometimes in the Perak territory and sometimes here.

May seriously affect us.

81. It is hard to say when this state of things will end, or if it should end, how long the improvement will last. It may affect us in other ways than in the diminution of our imports of tin and exports of British goods, for the feud which is raging between the Chinamen of Laroot is by no means unlikely to spread to Penang, the head-quarters of the leading Chinamen. Several times on the arrival of crowds of wounded men and stories of massacre, feeling has run very high here, and on two occasions an outbreak was imminent. And how dangerous and destructive these Chinese outbreaks are, any person who was in Penang seven years ago can testify.*

Possible remedy.

82. Our action has been simply to give to the Toonku Muntri such advice as seemed good for him, and to prevent as much as possible the issue of expeditions, or munitions of war, from our ports to any port of Perak. It is possible that friendly intervention on our part would end the condition of things described, and it is more than probable that a resident political officer—a carefully-chosen discreet man, with a good knowledge of the people and their language—would prevent its recurrence. Most native-ruled States in and around India have such officers, and the value of their influence is unquestionable.

Sumatra affairs.

83. In the state of affairs in Sumatra, too, and especially in Acheen, we are much interested; for our imports of pepper and tobacco, and our exports of opium, specie, piece goods, and other British produce are very large as regards that fine country. It is to be hoped that the present Dutch war with Acheen will not cripple this commerce.

84. So far as I have come in contact with them I have found all the Malay potentates most amenable to reason, most courteous, and most anxious to please. They constantly have our escaped criminals carefully sought out and sent back to us, and they have in several instances given handsome donations to our charitable institutions and to our free school. The Rajah of Keddah is a particularly good and pleasant neighbour. Much may be done by friendly intercourse with the chiefs to increase our own commerce, and, at the same time, to improve their countries.

Public Health.

Good on the whole.

85. The public health of the settlement has, on the whole, been very fair during 1872. It has already been stated that there was a good deal of sickness throughout Penang, principally in the shape of fever, about the time when the 80th Regiment suffered to a considerable extent. The general hospital has been improved, and a lock hospital has lately been added to it. The jail hospital has been much improved. A new hospital is wanted in the south of Province Wellesley, principally for the accommodation of the estate Coolies. There should be attached to it a public dispensary, as

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* See my predecessor's Blue Book Report for 1871.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

the neighbourhood is far from the nearest hospital and dispensary, which are at Butterworth. The planters would contribute half the cost of the new institution. With my Report on this subject I submitted a valuable memorandum by Mr. Lamb, manager of "Caledonia," one of Mr. Horsman's sugar estates in the south of the province. On sanitary grounds the drainage of George Town and the reclamation of the swamps within it should be undertaken as speedily as possible.

Dry conservancy.

86. About the middle of 1872 I introduced dry earth conservancy in the pauper hospital with marked advantage, and the system has since been extended to the prisons, the barracks, and other public buildings, with the best results. The change was attended with difficulties as all changes in the East are, but most of them have been overcome and the new system will soon flourish. It is certain to do so with a population of keen agriculturists and gardeners like the Chinese—a people who know to the full the value of manure, and who are by no means squeamish as to its nature or the mode of application.

Principal Wants of the Settlement.

Recommendations.

87. This Report shows, I think, that the Settlement of Penang has progressed, and is progressing rapidly. The matters which seem to me most important to it now, are the pacification of the neighbouring native States and the cultivation of amicable relations with them; the construction of the wharf, which the constantly-increasing commerce renders so necessary; the drainage of the capital; the extension of education; and the improvement of the police.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE W. R. CAMPBELL,
Late Acting Lieut.-Governor.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
Straits Settlements.

MAURITIUS.

MAURITIUS.

No. 22.

No. 22.

The OFFICER ADMINISTERING the GOVERNMENT to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Mauritius, September 17, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Colonial Blue Book for 1872.

Taxation.

The following additional taxation has been imposed in 1872:—

Ordinance 17 of 1872 imposes the following additional duties for sanitary purposes:—Eight pence per gallon on all Colonial spirits for

consumption, and on all imported spirits and liquors. Seven pence per lb. on cigars, snuff, and manufactured tobacco. Four pence per lb. on unmanufactured tobacco.

Ordinance 15 of 1872 authorizes the levying of additional taxation upon the Roman Catholic inhabitants of the district of Savanne, in order to recover the advance of 2,000*l.* made from the Colonial Treasury for the purpose of repairing the church and presbytery of St. James, in that district.

It is thus apportioned:—10 per cent. on all direct taxes and licences; 5*l.* on each distillery licence; sixpence on each engagement of any immigrant.

Ordinance 20 of 1872 authorizes the levying additional taxation upon the Roman Catholic inhabitants only of the district of Black River, in order to recover an additional advance of 500*l.* made from the Colonial Treasury for completing the church of St. Sauveur, in that district.

It is thus apportioned:—25 per cent. on all direct taxes and licences; six pence on each engagement of an immigrant.

Revenue and Expenditure.

	£
The surplus of revenue over expenditure in 1872 has been - -	54,540
As against in 1871 the sum of - - - - - - -	17,740
The revenue of 1872 exceeded that of 1871 by - - - -	83,032
The expenditure of 1872 exceeded that of 1871 by - - -	46,233
The revenue has exceeded the estimated amount by - - -	96,110
The expenditure has exceeded the estimated amount by - -	50,408

In these Tables the revenue and expenditure of Seychelles are eliminated.

The following Table shows the principal items of revenue of 1871 and 1872, and the mean of the ten years ending 1870:—

	Mean of Ten Years ending 1870.	Actual.	
		1871.	1872.
Customs - - - - - - -	191,072	200,906	241,987
Taxes - - - - - - - -	17,864	13,797	13,795
Licences and permits - - - -	167,012	169,660	178,906
Stamps - - - - - - - -	8,664	11,839	10,983
Registration of mortgage dues - -	25,391	18,746	29,708
Postage - - - - - - - -	6,576	4,774	4,880
Harbour dues - - - - - -	26,783	19,885	23,643
Land revenue - - - -	1,213	5,555	4,558
Fines and forfeitures - -	16,699	13,409	12,783
Fees of office - -	9,928	9,280	7,446

The increase has been principally in customs, harbour dues, transfer, registration and mortgage dues, and licences.

The falling off is in stamps, fees of office, and interest.

The following Table shows the principal items of expenditure of 1871 and 1872, and the mean for the ten years ending in 1870:—

	Mean of Ten Years ending 1870.	Actual. 1871.	Actual. 1872.
Salaries	209,667	204,003	205,144
Allowances and contingencies	29,897	27,222	24,603
Total establishment	239,564	231,225	229,747

	Mean of Ten Years ending 1870.	Actual. 1871.	Actual. 1872.
Pensions	13,868	14,438	15,697
Revenue services	10,612	8,422	8,719
Administration of justice	8,151	7,369	7,563
Ecclesiastical	2,341	2,365	2,837
Education	6,296	4,591	5,076
Hospitals	9,804	6,468	10,420
Police and gaols	6,470	6,941	6,567
Rent	5,211	5,452	5,465
Transport	3,219	1,863	1,834
Mails	—	5,404	5,414
Works and buildings	25,282	11,679	18,410
Roads and bridges	21,469	12,432	11,118
Interest	12,928	14,866	13,606
Civil stores	32,867	24,178	26,710
Military	36,309	24,055	27,053
Immigration	10,777	14,345	18,722

Expenditure over 1871. The excess was distributed chiefly under the following heads:—

Registrar-General, in consequence of the provisions of the new Civil Status Ordinance, No. 17 of 1871.

Education, an increased number of masters being required at the Royal College, and new Government schools having been opened.

Pensions, consequent on retirements caused chiefly by sickness.

Hospitals, from increased number of patients.

Works and buildings.

Miscellaneous, including 7,921*l.* for Royal Commissioners from April to December, and

Immigration, on account of return passages and bounties on an increased number of females arrived from India.

The gross railway revenue in 1872 amounted to 116,446*l.*, being an increase over that of 1871 of 12,984*l.* The expenditure in 1872, 88,423*l.*, being an increase over that of 1871 of 15,229*l.* This latter increase is attributed by the manager to the increased cost of maintenance of way and of locomotive power.

It is thus shown that the working expenses were 75·93 per cent. of the receipts, but the engineer and manager, in his annual report, by taking credit for the Government traffic, and charging only the value of the stores actually expended during the year, reduces the working expenses to 65·28 per cent. of the actual receipts.

Local Revenues, &c.

The revenue and expenditure of the Municipal Corporation of Port Louis have been 39,534*l.* and 38,612*l.* repectively, showing an excess of revenue over expenditure of 922*l.*

These figures do not include the receipts and payments made on account of debenture bonds; but including those receipts and payments, the total revenue and expenditure of the Corporation for the last ten years will stand as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1863	58,974	59,155
1864	48,620	48,549
1865	89,698	87,824
1866	84,114	84,402
1867	115,168	115,784
1868	71,670	70,472
1869	62,497	64,162
1870	81,580	75,536
1871	63,899	67,288
1872	48,918	49,254

No debentures were issued by the Municipal Corporation in 1872; whilst outstanding bonds were paid off to the amount of 2,560*l.*

At the end of 1870 the debt of the Corporation is represented to have been 140,940*l.*

At the end of 1871 it was 135,700*l.*, and on the 31st December, 1872, it was 133,160*l.*

There is again therefore a slight improvement in the financial position of the Corporation.

The revenue and expenditure of the General Board of Health during four years have respectively been

	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.
	£	£	£	£
Revenue	8,770	10,153	8,846	12,314
Expenditure	7,668	8,210	14,731	15,234

The large increase in revenue in 1872 is due to the additional taxation imposed by Ordinance 17 of 1872.

The debt due by the Board to Government on 31st December, 1872, was 13,881*l.* 16*s.* 1¼*d.*

The revenue and expenditure of the Poor Law Commission during 1872 were respectively 31,536*l.* and 30,528*l.*, as against 26,762*l.* and 26,545*l.* in 1871.

The debt of the Commission outstanding on 31st December, 1872, was 10,836*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*

Military Expenditure.

The contribution towards the military expenditure in 1872 was 27,053*l.* against 24,056*l.* in the previous year. This, however, is more apparent than real, as only ten months were paid in 1871 and fourteen months in 1872.

Public Works.

The expenditure on public works during 1872 exceeded that in 1871 by 6,768*l.*

The maintenance of roads and bridges cost rather less than last year, being 11,118*l.* against 12,483*l.* in 1871.

The total amount expended in 1872 on works and buildings, roads and bridges, has been 29,527*l.* against 24,124*l.* in 1871.

Establishments.

The expenditure of the last six years has been as follows:—

Years.	Salaries.	Allowances and Contingencies.	Total.
	£	£	£
1867	215,762	28,607	244,349
1868	211,627	28,505	240,132
1869	208,883	25,721	234,604
1870	206,365	28,207	234,572
1871	208,039	27,903	235,942
1872	205,144	24,603	229,747

Showing a steady decrease in the expenditure under this head.

Population.

The estimated population on 31st December, 1872, was:

	Males.	Females.	Total.
General population	54,562	49,420	103,982
Indian „	144,344	78,128	222,472
	198,906	127,548	326,454

The excess of births over deaths was 2,618; the excess of arrivals over departures was 2,342.

The excess of births over deaths is thus distributed:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
General population	484	620	1,104
Indian „	221	1,293	1,514
	705	1,913	2,618

The births and deaths during the last ten years have been:

	Births.		Deaths.
1863	11,169	-	11,666
1864	11,499	-	11,649
1865	12,118	-	12,042
1866	12,134	-	11,702
1867	10,568	-	40,114
1868	9,436	-	18,403
1869	9,977	-	11,295
1870	11,157	-	7,426
1871	11,803	-	8,171
1872	11,363	-	8,745

And the birth and death rate per cent.:—

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
1863	3·3	3·4
1864	3·3	3·4
1865	3·3	3·3
1866	3·3	3·2
1867	3·1	12·0
1868	2·9	5·67
1869	3·0	3·49
1870	3·3	2·25
1871	3·73	2·58
1872	3·48	2·67

The death rate of 1872 in each district was as follows, distinguishing the Indian population from the other classes:—

	General Population.	Indian. Population.	Total.
Port Louis	3·15	4·15	3·57
Pamplemousses	1·41	2·	2·14
Rivière du Rempart	2·16	1·62	1·93
Flacq	3·30	2·11	2·36
Grand Port	3·77	2·90	3·13
Savanne	2·92	2·50	2·60
Plaines Wilhems	2·97	2·36	2·54
Black River	2·10	2·46	2·34
Moka	2·70	2·21	2·34

The death rates of the whole Island:

General population	3·02
Indian „	2·51
Total „	2·67

From the above it appears that in the death rates for the districts of Port Louis, Flacq, Savanne, and Moka, there has been a small increase; in Grand Port, a larger increase; in Pamplemousses, a small decrease; and in Rivière du Rempart and Black River, a notable decrease.

The general death rate of the whole Island has increased from 2·58 to 2·67.

As in last year the greatest mortality is attributed to fever, the number directly traced to this malady being very nearly 45 per cent., whereas in 1871 it was 43 per cent.

The number of suicides was in 1869, 90; 1870, 66; 1871, 63; 1872, 61.

The immigration returns show that 5,774 persons were introduced into the Colony in 1872, and 3,819 returned to India.

Education.

The increase in the number of pupils attending the Royal College continues to be very satisfactory.

There were on the books in December, 1872:—

At the Royal College, Port Louis - - - -	305
At the Branch School at Cwipipe - - - -	92
Total - - - -	397
In 1871 these numbers stood at 222 and 66—Total -	288
Giving an increase of - - - - -	109

The number of pupils who passed the matriculation examination of the London University was 4; B.A. examination, 1.

There is also a new Elementary School opened in connection with the Royal College, which is very successful.

The number of pupils on the rolls of the Government Schools in 1872 was 5,040; in 1871, 5,000.

Administration of Justice.

The acting Procureur-General's Report on Crime shows a continued improvement, as will appear from the following comparative statement:—

	1871.		1872.	
Number of persons committed for trial at the assizes - - -	125		92	
Number of persons tried - - -	108		84	
" " convicted - -	77	108	53	84
" " acquitted - -	31		31	

The number of persons (all men) tried either as principals or accomplices for murder, and other crimes against life, or for attempting such crimes, was as follows in the two years:—

	Murder or Attempt.		Manslaughter or Attempt.		Wounds and blows causing Death.		Involuntary Homicide.	
	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.
Number tried - -	15	10	7	14	18	9	4	—
" convicted as charged - -	8	2	1	2	4	5	3	—
" minor offence -	5	7	6	7	2	0	1	—
" acquitted - -	2	1	—	5	12	4	—	—

Two men convicted of murder were executed. The sentences of the others were commuted to imprisonment.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The commitments have been in

	Males.	Females.
1869	26,489	359
1870	18,007	306
1871	14,183	347
1872	11,323	257

The average daily strength of all prisons during the last six years has been in

		Decrease.
1867	1,729	—
1868	1,681	48
1869	1,651	30
1870	1,588	63
1871	1,399	184
1872	1,180	224

The prison establishments have been visited several times during the year, and carefully inspected in all their details by the chief medical officer.

The death-rate was much lower than in the preceding years, having been 4·15 in 1870, 2·19 in 1871, and 1·78 in 1872.

Juvenile Reformatory.

The health of the boys in this institution has improved since the previous year, with the exception of an outbreak of malignant ulcers, which proved fatal to 11. It may now be considered satisfactory.

The number of boys received has decreased. In 1870 there were 157 received; in 1871, 112; in 1872, 75.

Since its establishment in June, 1868, 783 boys have been sent to it, of whom 234 have been apprenticed out. The number remaining on 31st December, 1872, was 263, whose money earnings for the year amounted to 421*l.* 6*s.* 7¾*d.*, exclusive of the gain to Government for value of new buildings, repairs, road making, and planting trees.

Legislation.

Twenty-four Ordinances were passed in 1872, of which the following only require special attention.

Six of these Ordinances and four Proclamations were passed relative to the public health, or closely analogous subjects.

Ordinance 17 abolished the former method of raising funds for sanitary requirements by means of rates levied on the locative value of premises, and substituted for it additional duties on foreign and colonial spirits and tobacco.

These duties were estimated to produce 12,500*l.* during the last six months of 1872, consequent upon the Ordinance being put in force, and actually produced 11,013*l.*

The former sanitary rates were estimated to produce 13,689*l.* for the whole year.

The collection of this large amount, of which three-fifths is appropriated to the General Board of Health and two-fifths to the requirements of Port Louis, represented by the Local Board, is both easy and inexpensive.

Ordinance 9 was passed to stay as much as possible the further destruction of live forest in the Island, and to protect the streams and water-courses, pending the passing and approval by Her Majesty of further legislation; its operation has been attended with beneficial results.

Ordinance 12 on the same subject has not been put in force in its integrity, a portion of it not having met with Her Majesty's approval.

Ordinance 10 was passed to ward off danger that might occur to the population generally by the sale of impure petroleum and other specially dangerous goods.

Ordinance 19 was passed to put down a practice, of which several instances had occurred, of placing obstructions in the way of railway trains.

Two Ordinances 11 and 13 are temporary in their effect, and will lapse on the departure of the Royal Commissioners.

Ordinance 14 more closely assimilates the law of divorce in this Colony to that of England, and abrogates the old provisions of the Civil Code permitting divorce by mutual consent.

The Proclamations relative to public health were respecting sanitary requirements in villages, and the regulation of cemeteries and slaughter houses.

Imports and Exports.

The following Table will show at a glance the commercial transactions of the Colony as regards imports and exports, comparing 1872 with 1871 :—

	1871.		1872.		Excess of 1872 over 1871.	
	Including Specie.	Excluding Specie.	Including Specie.	Excluding Specie.	Including Specie.	Excluding Specie.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Exports - -	3,120,528	3,053,054	3,243,102	3,177,301	122,574	124,247
Imports - -	2,044,246	1,807,382	2,677,974	2,437,512	633,728	630,130
Excess of exports	1,076,282	1,245,672	565,128	739,789		

The value of specie imported in 1871 was 236,864*l.*; in 1872, 240,462*l.*; ditto, ditto, exported, in 1871, 67,474*l.*; in 1872, 65,800*l.*; balance, in 1871, 169,390*l.*; in 1872, 174,662*l.*

The true export, however, undoubtedly far exceeded the amount declared.

The quantities and values of sugar shipped for the last six years are returned as follows:—

	Tons.	Value.	Average price per cwt.		
		£	£	*s.*	*d.*
1867	100,000	2,156,950	0	18	4
1868	99,000	2,143,166	1	1	10
1869	107,000	2,599,815	1	2	10
1870	102,000	2,549,881	1	4	11
1871	123,000	2,819,944	1	2	7
1872	127,000	2,817,221	1	2	2

General Remarks.

The Commission appointed by Her Majesty to inquire into the condition of the Indian immigrants in the Colony arrived on the 7th April, and continued their inquiry up to the close of the year.

The excess of revenue over expenditure has improved the financial position of the Colony, the available balance on the 31st December last, deducting all doubtful assets, being 37,936*l.*

It is undoubtedly desirable to have the advantage of a large reserve balance on hand, but it would probably be more useful to devote this balance rather to the construction of the important sanitary works and the reconstruction of some of the public buildings, such as gaols, lunatic asylums, &c., which are so urgently required, than to hoard it up to meet any future deficiencies which may happen in consequence of a short sugar crop and the outbreak of an epidemic.

The sugar crop of last year was slightly above the average of the last ten years, and the prices obtained were so high that it was probably one of the most valuable ever produced.

The sanitary state of the Island was scarcely so satisfactory as during the two preceding years, the death-rate having been 2·67, while in 1870 it was 2·25, and in 1871 it was 2·58, and there is every reason to believe that malarious fever has become endemic, and will occur with more or less severity during every hot season.

Though the Government have not yet obtained any additional powers of obtaining and preserving tracts of forest lands, yet considerable progress has been made in planting the mountain slope in the vicinity of Port Louis and other waste Crown lands with suitable trees.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) EDWARD NEWTON, Administrator of the Government, Mauritius.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

VICTORIA.

VICTORIA.

No. 23.

No. 23.

Sir G. F. BOWEN to the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
October 14, 1873.

MY LORD,

ADVERTING to my Despatch of the 1st September ulto., and to previous correspondence on the same subject, I have now the honour to transmit the Registrar-General's Report on the principal Statistics of Victoria for the year 1872, for publication in the Annual Blue Book, showing the condition and progress of the British Colonies.

Report of the Registrar-General.

2. It will be seen that the steady progress and general prosperity of Victoria are eminently satisfactory.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. F. BOWEN.

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 23.

Enclosure in No. 23.

STATISTICS OF THE COLONY.

To the Honourable the Chief Secretary of Victoria.

Registrar-General's Office, Melbourne,
September 18, 1873.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the following parts of the Statistics of Victoria for the year 1872 :—

Part I. Blue Book.
„ II. Finance.
„ III. Population, and
„ IV. Accumulation.

Part V., Law, Crime, &c., is now in the printer's hands, and the remaining parts will follow so soon as I shall have received from some of the Government Departments certain returns which are expected daily.

In the following statement information is brought down to as late a date as practicable, under each head.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. H. ARCHER,
Registrar-General.

BLUE BOOK.

This part of the statistics comprises a list of the various Governors of the Colony from the date of its first settlement, and the successive Parliaments and Ministers since the inauguration of responsible government; the members of the Executive Council and of both Houses of Parliament during 1872, and the Foreign Consuls.

Finance, &c.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for the service of the financial year 1871–2 was 3,734,422*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*, and the expenditure for the service of the same year was 3,659,533*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

Taking the population of the Colony on the 31st December, 1871, to be 752,445, the revenue for the service of 1871–2 was at the rate of 4*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* per head of the population, and the expenditure for the same period at the rate of 4*l.* 17*s.* 3¼*d.* per head.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt at the end of 1872 amounted to 11,984,800*l.*, being 10,000*l.* less than at the end of 1871.

MILITARY FORCES AND VOLUNTEERS.

The Artillery Corps, organized in consequence of the withdrawal of the detachment of Imperial troops formerly kept in the Colony, numbered 136, being 57 short of the complete establishment.

The Volunteer Force consisted in all of 3,879 men, of whom 205 were officers and 247 were sergeants. The total establishment authorized is 3,924.

Population.

The estimated population of the Colony on 31st December, 1872, was 770,727, consisting of 419,903 males and 350,824 females. The census taken on the 2nd April, 1871, showed the population on that date to be 731,528, viz. 401,050 males and 330,478 females. Of these 17,935 were Chinese, and 1,330 were Aborigines. The increase in population during the year 1872 was 18,282, which was caused by the excess of births over deaths amouuting to 16,530, and of immigration over emigration, amounting to 1,752 during the year.

The population on the goldfields was 270,428 at the last time of enumeration, viz. 2nd April, 1871. The total number of miners at the end of 1872 was estimated to be 52,965, of which 14,158 were Chinese. There was a computed decrease of 53,14 in the number of miners during the year 1872.

It was estimated that the population of the various cities, towns, and boroughs amounted in 1872 to 374,201, while that of the shires and road districts was computed to be 357,656. The revenue and expenditure of the former was 391,936*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.* and 396,689*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* respectively, and of the latter 541,817*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* and 556,522*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* respectively.

Eighty-seven foreigners procured letters of naturalization during the year.

The nnmber of electors on the rolls for the Legislative Council for the year 1872–3 was 22,537. At the biennial elections, in 1872, 54 per cent. of the electors then on the rolls voted.

The electoral rolls for 1872–3 for the Legislative Assembly showed the number of electors to be 127,700, of whom 108,276 were ratepayers. At the general election in 1871, 65 per cent. of the electors then on the rolls voted.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

During 1872, 27,047 persons, consisting of 19,056 males and 7,991 females, arrived by sea. Of these 23,999 were adults. From the neighbouring colonies 21,325 persons arrived, while from the United Kingdom there came 4,818 persons, and from foreign ports, 904.

The departures numbered 25,295, consisting of 18,685 males, and 6,610 females; of these 22,375 were adults. The gain to the population by the excess of immigration over emigration was, therefore, 1,752, viz. 371 males and 1,381 females, of whom 1,624 were adults.

The largest number of arrivals and departures in any one month occurred in September, when 3,119 persons arrived at, and 3,591 left this Colony.

Of the 27,047 immigrants 25,954 were unassisted, and 1,093 were assisted. During the financial year 1871–2 a sum of 19,886*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* was expended upon the introduction of immigrants.

Accumulation.

BANKS.

There are ten banks of issue in the Colony, which are regulated by the banks and currency statute (27 Vict. No. 194). The average rates per cent. per annum of discount on local bills during 1872 were:—

Under	65 days' currency	-	5 per cent. to	5½	per cent.
„	95 „	-	5 „	6	„
95 to	125 „	-	6 „	7	„
Above	125 „	-	7 „	8	„

The average rates of exchange for bills drawn on places outside the Colony were:—

London - - -	½ per cent. to 1⅛ per cent. premium.
British India - -	2*s.* 1*d.* per rupee.
New South Wales -	2*s.* 3*d.* to ¼ per cent. premium.
Queensland - -	½ per cent. to 1 per cent. premium.
South Australia - -	1/10 per cent. to ½ per cent. premium.
Tasmania - - -	¼ per cent. to ¾ per cent. premium.
New Zealand - -	9*s.* 3*d.* to ¾ per cent. premium.

The assets and liabilities of the ten banks, according to the sworn returns for the quarter ending 31st December, 1872, were—

Assets.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Coined gold, silver, and other metals - -	2,708,389	19	5
Gold and silver in bullion and bars - -	662,632	3	0
Landed property - - - - -	635,808	15	9
Notes and bills of other banks - - -	164,698	17	0
Balances due from other banks - -	354,079	13	2
Debts due to the banks - - - -	13,600,292	17	0
Total - - -	£18,125,902	5	4

Liabilities.

	£.	s.	d.
Notes in circulation	1,327,374	7	0
Bills in circulation	90,523	6	0
Balances due to other banks	219,223	1	11
Deposits not bearing interest	5,305,692	15	0
Deposits bearing interest	6,992,233	15	9
Total	£13,935,047	5	8

The aggregate amount of capital stock paid up was 8,276,250*l.*; the rates of the last declared dividends ranged from 6 per cent. to 13 per cent.; the total amount of last dividends declared was 421,800*l.*; and the amount of reserved profits at the time of declaring such dividends was 2,171,705*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*

SAVINGS BANKS.

At the end of the financial year 1872 there were eleven savings banks in existence (exclusive of the Post Office Savings Banks), under the control of five Commissioners. The total number of depositors was 22,621; the amount remaining to the credit of the depositors at the end of the financial year was 862,307*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*, in various sums, as indicated below:—

Amount of Deposit.	£	s.	d.
Under 20*l.*	66,689	11	8
20*l.* and under 50*l.*	132,224	1	5
50*l.* and under 100*l.*	171,545	8	3
100*l.* and under 150*l.*	159,686	1	1
150*l.* and under 200*l.*	107,012	16	2
200*l.* and upwards	225,149	19	10
Total	£862,307	18	5

The average amount of the depositors' balances was 38*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* The number of depositors during the year was 1,606 in excess of the number in the preceding year, and during the same period the amount to the credit of depositors increased by 98,071*l.* 14*s.*

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS.

At the end of the year 1872 the number of Post Office Savings Banks in existence was 130; the number of accounts open was 30,128; the amount of depositors' balances was 543,430*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*; and the average amount to each depositor was 18*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*

MORTGAGES, RELEASES, AND LIENS.

The number of mortgages, releases, and liens which were effected during 1872, and the amounts secured thereby, are shown in the following Table:—

		CONSIDERATION.							Total.
		Under £100.	£100 to £250.	£250 to £500.	£500 to £1000.	£1000 to £5000.	£5000 and upwards.	Unspecified.	
MORTGAGES & LIENS ON									
Land ..	Number ..	879	1,433	816	542	471	115	269	4,525
	Amount ..	£45,571	£206,288	£270,119	£339,153	£862,209	£1,517,586	..	£3,240,926
Live Stock	Number ..	100	64	38	24	49	25	7	307
	Amount ..	£5,029	£9,385	£13,303	£17,324	£113,226	£301,527	..	£459,794
Wool ..	Number ..	66	84	43	20	82	24	..	319
	Amount ..	£3 755	£12,338	£14,377	£12,962	£179,255	£152,821	..	£375,508
RELEASES.									
Land ..	Number ..	392	657	390	256	211	77	352	2,335
	Amount ..	£19,749	£96,966	£129,732	£162,456	£396,053	£913,636	..	£1,718,592
Live Stock	Number ..	3	4	7	6	27	29	9	85
	Amount ..	£90	£623	£2,390	£4,456	£64,924	£283,595	..	£356,078
Wool ..	Number ..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	3
	Amount ..	..	..	£339	£566	£2,000	..	..	£2,905

BUILDING SOCIETIES.

Fifty-four Building Societies furnished Returns for the year 1872, of which the following Table is a summary:—

Number of Societies.	Number of Members.	Number of Shares.		Advances made since Societies were established.	According to the Balance Sheets 1872.			
		Satisfied or Borrowing.	Unsatisfied or Investing.		Income in past Year.	Working Expenses in past Year.	Assets.	Liabilities.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
54	16,500	30,584¾	75,849⅞	2,713,583 14 7	754,538 17 10	22,735 18 1	1,853,375 4 11½	1,379,835 11 0

Production.

During the year 1872 the purchase of 752,161 acres of Crown lands was completed, and 320 acres were granted without purchase. The amount realized for these lands, portion of which had been purchased on deferred payments extending over a series of years prior to the year under review, was 859,142*l.*, or an average of 1*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* per acre. The total extent alienated in the Colony up to the end of the year was 8,870,166 acres, and the area of country still unalienated was 47,576,554 acres.

The number of squatters or pastoral licensees who hold annual licences of larger tracts of Crown lands was 939, and the approximate area occupied by them was 26,556,429 acres.

AGRICULTURE.

The number of occupiers of land in holdings of not less than one acre in extent, for other than pastoral purposes, was 34,596. The

following Table shows the number of holders, the extent of land occupied, and the extent of land cultivated, during the last five years:—

Year ending 31st March.	Number of Holders.	Extent of Land Occupied.	Extent of Land Cultivated.	Proportion of Occupied Land which is cultivated.
		Acres.	Acres.	Per Cent.
1869 - - -	29,218	8,884,193	712,865	8·0
1870 - - -	30,214	8,849,486	827,534	9·4
1871 - - -	31,842	9,530,638	909,015	9·5
1872 - - -	33,720	10,100,679	937,220	9·3
1873 - - -	34,596	10,711,745	963,091	9·0

The increase in the number of holders from 1869 to 1873 was 5,378, or 18·4 per cent.; in the extent of land occupied, 1,827,552 acres, or 20·6 per cent.; and in the extent of land cultivated, 250,226 acres, or 35·1 per cent.

The area of land under the principal crops during 1872, and the quantity of produce raised, were as follows:—

	Area.	Produce.
Wheat - - -	326,564 acres -	5,391,104 bushels.
Oats - - - -	125,505 „ -	2,454,225 „
Barley - - -	21,251 „ -	443,221 „
Potatoes - - -	38,517 „ -	132,997 tons.
Hay - - -	121,375 „ -	159,964 „

The extent of land under wheat and oats was less by 8,045 and 50,439 acres respectively in the year ending 31st March, 1873, than in the previous year. The quantity of wheat produced in the first-named period was 890,309 bushels in excess of the quantity produced in the previous year, and the number of bushels of oats produced was 845,664 less in the later period compared with the earlier one.

Potatoes occupied 38,517 acres in the year ending 31st March, 1873, and 39,064 acres in the previous year; the produce was, however, 7,156 tons more in the first-named period than in the year ending 31st March, 1872.

There was an increase of 18,169 acres in the extent of land under hay, and of 15,327 tons in the produce therefrom, in the later period compared with the former year.

With respect to vines, there was a decrease of 38 acres in the extent of land occupied by them. The number of vines was greater by 208,285 in 1872–3 than in the preceding year. There was a decrease in the amount of grapes gathered, consisting of 11,558 cwt. not made into wine or brandy, of 21,168 cwt. made into wine or brandy; and a decrease of 185,997 gallons in the amount of wine produced. There was an increase of 428 gallons in the quantity of brandy manufactured.

Sixteen acres were occupied by flax, the produce of which was 153 bushels of linseed and 144 cwt. of fibre.

The average produce per acre of the principal crops during 1872 and 1873 was as follows:—

Year ending 31st March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1872	13·45	18·76	3·22	1·40
1873	16·51	19·55	4·45	1·32

The amount of attention which was paid to the cultivation of crops of minor importance, and the produce obtained therefrom, is indicated by the following statement:—

	Area.	Produce.
Maize (grain)	1,910 acres	37,703 bushels.
Rye and bere	712 „	9,350 „
Pease, beans, millet, and sorghum	13,368 „	236,582 „
Turnips	251 „	1,621 tons.
Mangel-wurzel	1,739 „	23,475 „
Beet, carrots, parsnips, and cabbage	2,271 „	16,605 „
Onions	417 „	3,347 „

The number of acres under tobacco during the year 1872–3 was 423, compared with 299 in the previous year. The quantity of tobacco obtained was 1,837 cwt. in the first-named year, and 2,307 cwt. in the second named.

Leases of farms from private individuals were for periods varying from 1 to 7 years.

The average prices of agricultural produce during the months of February and March, 1873, were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	
Wheat	0	4	9	per bushel.
Oats	0	3	5	„
Barley	0	4	1	„
Maize	0	3	10	„
Hay	4	1	0	per ton.
Potatoes	3	7	4	„
Mangel-wurzel	1	4	5	„

The average weight per bushel of the principal cereal crops raised in the Colony during the season 1872–3 was—wheat, 61 lbs.; oats, 40 lbs.; barley, 51 lbs.; maize, 55 lbs.

The number of hands employed on holdings unconnected with squatting stations, was 76,990, of which 52,950 were males. The number employed on stations was—males, 4,509; females, 1,307—total, 5,816.

The average rates of wages paid upon farms and stations for labourers of various descriptions are given in the following Table:—

Rates of Labour, with Rations, paid on Farms.

	s.	d.	
Ploughmen	18	9	per week.
Farm labourers	15	11	„
Married couples	21	4	„
Females	9	7	„

Rates of Labour, with Rations, paid on Farms—*continued.*

	s.	d.	
Mowers	27	10	per week.
	4	10	per acre.
Reapers	28	6	per week.
	14	3	per acre.
Threshers		7	per bushel.

Rates of Labour, with Rations, paid on Stations.

	£	s.	d.	
Stockmen	44	13	1	per annum.
Shepherds	33	14	5	,,
Hutkeepers	24	18	5	,,
Married couples	53	4	1	,,
Females	26	1	8	,,
Station labourers		15	10	per week.
Sheepwashers		19	2	,,
Shearers		13	2	per 100 sheep shorn.

LIVE STOCK.

The quantity of live stock in the Colony, in the first quarter of 1873, was as follows:—

Horses, 185,796. Cattle, 812,289. Sheep, 10,575,219. Pigs, 193,722.

MANUFACTURES, MACHINERY,* &c.

The total value of agricultural implements and machines in operation upon farms in the Colony during the year 1871–2 was 1,373,872*l.* On squatting stations their value was 78,329*l.* The approximate value of improvements on farms—such as fencing, wells, dams, &c., was 8,547,279*l.* Those on stations, 1,784,923*l.* The average price paid for machine labour was 6*s.* 1*d.* per acre for machine reaping, 4*s.* 4*d.* per acre for machine mowing, and 23*s.* per 100 bushels for machine threshing.

Mills for grinding and crushing corn numbered 154, of which 12 were water-mills, and 142 worked by steam.

Four millions nine hundred and forty-eight thousand nine hundred and ten bushels of grain were operated upon, and 103,809 tons of flour were made, in addition to 3,625 tons of meal.

Breweries numbered 126; stone quarries, 164; brickyards and potteries, 328; and other works and manufactories, 1,137. The number of hands employed in all manufactories was 18,192 males, and 2,630 females. The number of steam-engines employed was 708, and the amount of horse-power thereof, 9,815. The approximate value of lands and buildings was 1,884,151*l.*; and of machinery and plant, 2,892,001*l.*

The number of machines of all kinds in use on the goldfields at the end of the year 1872 was 24,436; and the approximate value of

* The figures under this head are those for 1871, the statistics for 1872 not being yet compiled.

all mining plant, 2,098,574*l.* Of these 22,259 were used for alluvial mining, and 2,177 for quartz mining. In addition to these the number of stamp heads was 6,560.

PATENTS.

One hundred and twenty-two patents were applied for during the year 1872, of which 59 were granted, and 63 were either refused or allowed to lapse.

GOLD WORKINGS.

The approximate number of distinct quartz reefs proved to be auriferous was 3,224. The extent of auriferous alluvial and quartz ground worked upon was 1,026 square miles. The estimated value of gold mining claims was 11,820,139*l.* The number of tons of quartz crushed concerning which information could be obtained was 954,571$\frac{1}{10}$, and the total produce 568,381 ozs. 17 dwts. 14 grs.; the average yield per ton being 11 dwts. 21·81 grs. The amount of gold obtained from quartz veins and alluvial workings was estimated to be approximately—

From quartz veins, 666,438 ozs. 13 dwts.
From alluvial workings, 616,082 ozs. 3 dwts.

The number of leases in force on 31st December, 1872 for the purpose of mining for metals and minerals other than gold was:—

Antimony	12
Coal	8
Copper, and ores of copper	2
Flagging	1
Kaolin	1
Lignite	1
Silver	3
Silver and lead	2
Slate	4
Slate and flagging	1
Slate and freestone	3
Tin, and the ores of tin	2
Total	40

Law, Crime, &c.

TRANSFER OF LAND STATUTE.

The total amount of fees received under the Transfer of Land Statute during 1872 amounted to 17,873*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* The number of applications to bring land under the operation of this Statute was 1,076; the area of the land included in such applications being 31,595 a. 1 r. 10$\frac{9}{20}$ p., and the value of land included 773,892*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* Of this extent of land, 25,830 a. 2 r. 22½ p., of the value of 602,265*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, were actually brought under the Statute.

Seven thousand three hundred and eighteen certificates of title were issued, and 24,359 transactions of various kinds were dealt

with. The total area of land which was under this Act at the end of the year 1872 was 4,343,659 a. 1 r. $31\frac{2}{15}$ p., and its estimated value was 8,853,563*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*

EQUITY.

In the department of the Master in Equity there were 507 transactions in the equity jurisdiction, the fees for which amounted to 1,052*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*; 392 probates were issued, in which cases the gross value of the property was sworn under 1,229,579*l.*; 429 letters of administration were granted for property sworn under 365,199*l.* The fees in the ecclesiastical jurisdiction amounted to 690*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*; those in divorce to 97*l.* 17*s.*; the duties on estates of deceased persons amounted to 37,642*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*; other fees to the extent of 1*l.* 11*s.* were collected; thus making the total amount of fees collected in this department 39,485*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* The number of divorce transactions was 348.

LUNACY.

The moneys collected by the Master in Lunacy during the year 1872 amounted to 8,494*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*, the number of transactions in the department being 508.

INSOLVENCIES.

The estates of 804 persons were sequestrated, of which 59 were compulsory sequestrations. The amount of liabilities and assets, as shown by insolvents' schedules, were 696,868*l.* 4*s.* $7\frac{1}{2}$*d.* and 222,769*l.* 19*s.* $2\frac{1}{4}$*d.* respectively, the deficiency being 474,098*l.* 5*s.* $5\frac{1}{4}$*d.* The amount of court fees paid into the Treasury was 2,495*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*

INTESTATE ESTATES.

Three hundred and forty-two estates were dealt with by the Curator, of which 168 were estates remaining from former years. The estimated value of the 174 fresh estates was 81,297*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* The amounts received by the Curator were — on fresh estates, 34,904*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*; on estates remaining from former years, 3,512*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* The amounts paid by the Curator were—14,638*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* on fresh estates, and 9,837*l.* 1*s.* on estates remaining from former years.

APPREHENSIONS, COMMITMENTS, &c.

Twenty-three thousand seven hundred and five persons were taken into custody, of whom 7,473 were discharged by the magistrates, 15,544 were summarily convicted or held to bail, and 688 were committed for trial. Of these last 407 were convicted and sentenced, 203 were acquitted, and 78 were not prosecuted.

LITIGATION.

Two hundred and sixty-one causes of civil actions were entered in the Supreme and various Circuit Courts, in which the amount of damages were 180,659*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*; 182 causes were tried, and damages to the amount of 23,019*l.* 18*s.* were awarded by the juries; 4,101 writs of summons were issued.

VICTORIA.

In the Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court, 423 cases were tried—323 were for felonies, 100 were for misdemeanours; the number of convictions for felony was 235, and for misdemeanours 73.

Two hundred and six cases were tried in the Courts of General Sessions. The total number of convictions was 122, and of appeals 74.

During the year 10,705 causes were tried in the County Courts, the aggregate amount sued for being 268,369*l.* 7*s.* 2½*d.*; the aggregate amount recovered was 92,597*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* The fees paid to the revenue amounted to 3,390*l.* 2*s.*

The total number of suits in the Courts of Mines was 122, the amount of the demands being, 105,745*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*, the aggregate amount of cost awarded being 935*l.* 18*s.*, and the amount of fees paid to the revenue being 189*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*

In the Courts of Petty Sessions 2,110 cases were heard for indictable offences, out of which 721 persons were committed or held to bail for trial. 41,618 cases were heard for offences within the summary jurisdiction of the magistrates, the number of convictions being 26,390. 29,850 civil cases for debts or damages, to the amount of 176,043*l* 2*s.* 1½*d.*, were adjudicated upon, and 97,789*l.* 8*s.* awarded. 10,793 other cases were decided.

The number of writs received by the Sheriff in the Colony was 1,723.

Two criminals were executed in the Colony during 1872.

GAOLS, PENAL ESTABLISHMENTS, &c.

At the commencement of the year 897 prisoners were in confinement in the various gaols; 8,915 were received and 8,859 were discharged during the year; the number confined at the end of the year was 856. The greatest number in confinement at any one time during the year was 1,120.

In the penal establishments and hulks the number of prisoners in confinement at the beginning of the year was 726; 709 were received and 735 were discharged during 1872; the number in confinement at the end of the year was 700; and the largest number of prisoners at any one time during the year was 776.

The number of inmates of reformatories in the colony in 1872 was 168.

SUICIDES.

Seventy-one persons, of whom nine were females, committed suicide during 1872. The month in which the largest number (10) took place was in November, and in February the least number (2) occurred.

INQUESTS.

One thousand five hundred and twelve inquests were held during the year in cases of death, and 21 in cases of fire.

*Interchange.**

According to the "General Summary of the Import, Export, Transhipment, and Shipping Returns" laid before Parliament, it appears that the value of the imports during the year 1872 was 13,691,322*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*; the value of the exports was 13,871,194*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*

The value of articles "Exported for drawback" was 461,559*l.*, and the amount paid thereon 29,083*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*

The value of goods laden on ships arriving in the Colony and transhipped to other colonies or countries during the year was 1,292,656*l.*

The number, tonnage, and crews of vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards at and from all the ports of the Colony was as follows:—

	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Entered inwards	2,104	666,336	33,551
Cleared outwards	2,234	694,426	35,353

The amount of duties and revenue collected by the Department of Trade and Customs during 1872 was 1,678,336*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*

The pilotage rates during the same period amounted to 16,885*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.*

The quantity and value of the exports of gold, tallow and wool were as follows:—

	Amount.	Value.
		£.
Gold—Victorian	1,160,554 ozs. 19 dwts.	4,644,434
„ —Other	138,283 ozs. 18 dwts.	552,906
„ —Leaf	5 packages	107
Tallow	10,114 tons 6½ cwt.	353,358
Wool—Victorian	53,237,195 lbs.	4,260,801
„ —Other	5,411,782 lbs.	390,864

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

The number of births, deaths, and marriages which occurred during 1872 are indicated below:—

Year.	Births.				Deaths.			Excess of Births over Deaths.	Number of Marriages.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Illegitimate.	Males.	Females.	Total.		
1872	13,831	13,530	27,361	819	6,308	4,523	10,831	16,530	4,791

The estimated mean population of the Colony being 760,991, the proportions of births, deaths, and marriages to every 1,000 of the population were 35·95, 14·23, and 6·30 respectively. The mean of the ten preceding years, 1862–71, gives the following proportions:—births, 40·48; deaths, 16·31; marriages, 7·12.

* The complete statistics under this head are not yet compiled in the Customs Department.

Of the 4,791 marriages, 3,913 were between bachelors and spinsters, 356 were between bachelors and widows, 326 were between widowers and spinsters, and 196 between widowers and widows. 79 men and 1,365 women were married who were not of full age; 639 persons who were married were unable to sign their name.

The months of greatest mortality amongst males were January, with 755 deaths, and March, with 614 deaths. The months of least mortality were November, with 434 deaths, and June, with 438 deaths. Amongst females the months of greatest mortality were January and March, with 534 and 465 deaths respectively; and the months of least mortality were October and September, with 290 and 309 deaths respectively. Taking the average of the ten preceding years, 1862–71, the months in which the largest number of deaths occur are January and March, with 107¼ and 107 deaths respectively in every 1,000; and the months in which the least number of deaths occur are September and November, with 63·5 and 65·8 deaths respectively in every 1,000.

The number of deaths of persons under 5 years of age was 5,025; of those above that age, 5806. Of children under one year 3,334 deaths were recorded, Of adults most deaths took place among persons of ages from 40–45 years, 655 deaths being recorded.

The number of deaths of persons, males and females, at each quinquennial period of age, were as follows:—

Ages.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Under 5 years - - -	5,025	2,664	2,361
5 to 10 „ - - - -	499	278	221
10 to 15 „ - - -	272	143	129
15 to 20 „ - - - -	239	109	130
20 to 25 „ - - -	274	144	130
25 to 30 „ - - - -	356	193	163
30 to 35 „ - - -	444	254	190
35 to 40 „ - - - -	614	368	246
40 to 45 „ - - -	655	452	203
45 to 50 „ - - - -	521	351	170
50 to 55 „ - - -	475	355	120
55 to 60 „ - - - -	355	264	91
60 to 65 „ - - -	380	257	123
65 to 70 „ - - - -	236	158	78
70 to 75 „ - - -	222	155	67
75 to 80 „ - - - -	108	65	43
80 years and upwards - -	128	73	55
Age unspecified - - -	28	25	3
Total - - -	10,831	6,308	4,523

The causes of death from each class of disease is indicated in the following statement:

	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Zymotic diseases - - -	2,848	1,483	1,365
Constitutional diseases - -	1,466	842	624
Local diseases - - -	4,059	2,476	1,583
Developmental diseases - -	1,578	788	790
Violent deaths - - -	847	693	154
Causes not specified - -	33	26	7
Total - - -	10,831	6,308	4,523

The number of deaths which occurred in Melbourne and suburbs, consisting of an area of ten miles round Melbourne, and comprising a population of 225,000, during the year, was 3,895, of which 2,166 were of males and 1,729 were of females. The births registered were those of 3,883 boys and 3,749 girls, in all of 7,632 children. These figures indicate a proportion to every 1,000 of the living population of 17·3 as regards the deaths, and 33·9 as regards the births.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.*

Five hundred and ninety lodges or courts, of nineteen orders of Friendly Societies, furnished returns to the Registrar-General relating to their condition and operations during the years 1871. The number of members at the end of the year was 37,166; the revenue of the societies was 123,070*l.* 2*s.* 6$d\frac{1}{2}$., and the expenditure 102,136*l.* 9*s.* 11$\frac{1}{2}d$.; the assets were 213,003*l.* 14*s.* 7$\frac{1}{2}d$., and the liabilities 2,859*l.* 2*s.* 3$\frac{1}{4}d$.

There are other societies in existence which by reason of their neglect to comply with the provisions of the Friendly Societies Statute in furnishing statistics, are not represented in the above summary.

The returns of the societies included in the returns given above show that 6,810 non-fatal cases of sickness were experienced during 1871, and the number of deaths was 240. Aliment was allowed for 33,301 weeks and 2 days, i.e. at the rate of 5·6 days to each member. The period of sickness before death was 3,509 weeks.

METEOROLOGY.

The following Table gives the results deduced from observations taken throughout the year 1872 at various stations in the Colony:—

Station.	Feet above Sea-level.	Temperature in Shade.			Mean Atmospheric Pressure.	Days on which Rain fell.	Amount in inches of Rainfall.	Mean Relatve Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.
		Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.					
		°	°	°	inches.			°—1	°—10
Portland -	37	—	—	61·2	29·979	175	37·010	0·80	5·2
Melbourne -	91·3	103·3	32·5	57·6	29·923	136	32·521	0·74	6·4
Cape Otway	270	101·0	36·0	55·4	29·741	173	37·905	0·89	7·6
Sandhurst -	758	107·3	33·5	58·0	29·213	111	26·250	0·70	5·0
Ararat - -	1,050	—	—	—	28·872	141	28·786	—	6·4
Ballarat -	1,438	104·7	27·7	55·0	28·502	134	31·810	0·69	6·5

Religious, Moral, and Intellectual Progress.

CLERGY, CHURCHES, CHAPELS, &c.†

The total number of clergymen of all denominations registered at the end of 1872 was 567. In 1871, 2,210 buildings were used for public worship, of which 1,320 were chapels and churches, 356 were schoolhouses, and 534 were dwellings and public buildings. The approximate number of services performed during the year was 175,935. Accommodation was provided in the various churches and

* The information given relates to the year 1871, the statistics of Friendly Societies for 1872 not being yet completed.

† These figures, except those referring to the number of clergy, relate to 1871. The returns for 1872 are not yet completed.

other buildings for 346,861 persons, and the number usually attending at the principal Sunday or Sabbath service was 231,882. 1,352 Sabbath schools, with 11,890 teachers and 104,706 children were in existence.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The income of the Melbourne University was 13,168*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* during 1872, and the expenditure 12,805*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* 132 matriculated students and 2 non-matriculated students attended lectures on the various courses of study. The number of direct graduates at the end of the year was 165, and of those persons who were admitted *ad eundem gradum* 176.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, MUSEUMS, AND NATIONAL GALLERY.*

The number of volumes in the Public Library during 1871 was 73,083; the number of visitors was 220,440. The aid received from Government amounted to 2,977*l.* 10*s.*, and the value of private contributions was estimated at 249*l.* 5*s.*

The National Gallery contained 5,717 pictures and other works of art. The number of students in the schools of painting and design was 106.

The Industrial and Technological Museum contained 9,200 books, specimens, drawings, &c. The total number of students attending the class lectures was 52, and of persons attending the general lectures was 4,495.

The National Museum, of which Professor McCoy is the Director, received from Government during 1871 the sum of 1,600*l.* for maintenance. The number of visitors during the year was 84,010.

The number of mechanic's institutions, &c., which furnished returns to the Registrar-General in 1871 was 102. The amount of aid received from Government during 1871 was 3,178*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, and of private contributions 11,442*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* The total number of volumes in the libraries was 130,013, and the number of visitors 742,430.

HOSPITALS, BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS, &c.

The number of Benevolent Institutions in the Colony, and their accommodation, together with the extent to which they afforded relief, and their income and expenditure, for the year 1872, were as follows:—

HOSPITALS, BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS, &c.

	Number	Number of Cubic Feet in Wards	Number of Beds.	Number of Persons Relieved.	Daily Average of Relief.	Total Receipts.			Total Expenditure.		
						£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hospitals - -	30	1,196,775	1,819	59,425	2,448·7	95,915	16	4	97,808	3	8
Benevolent Asylums	6	1,140,580	1,699	57,300	2,629·3	42,281	19	9	38,326	16	4
Orphan Asylums -	6	691,560	1,106	1,216	988·3	20,339	0	4	23,438	0	2

* These figures, except those referring to the number of clergy, relate to 1871. The returns for 1872 are not yet completed.

OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

	Number	Number of Cubic Feet in Rooms or Wards.	Number of Beds.	Total. Receipts.			Total. Expenditure.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Hospitals for the Insane - -	4	1,755,299	2,049	—			—		
Private Retreat for the Insane - -	1	138,600	40	—			—		
Industrial & Reformatory Schools *	13	1,146,096	2,098	53,388	18	11	51,241	19	10
Deaf and Dumb Institution - -	1	71,284	120	2,987	12	0	2,668	3	10
Asylum and School for the Blind -	1	90,814	104	3,584	6	9½	3,171	6	6
Eye and Ear Institution - -	1	—	14	1,022	3	2	749	15	2
Female Refuges - - - - -	4	121,090⅛	187	5,240	15	1	7,522	18	10
Melbourne Home - - - - -	1	22,694	31	647	14	9	641	11	6
Sailor's Home - - - - - -	1	84,371	102	1,935	3	6	2,422	7	11
Children's Hospital - - - -	1	11,604	9	951	1	8	488	2	10

* These figures are for the year 1871.

The various Benevolent Societies relieved 12,699 individuals. The total income was 12,507*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*, and the expenditure 11,810*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.*

The number of schools supported by the State in 1871 was 988, with an average attendance of 67,233 children, out of an estimated number of 114,300 distinct children who attended the schools during the year. The number of teachers of all grades employed was 2,317. The amount received from local contributions was 107,190*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, and from Government 167,194*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*

There were 1,055 private schools throughout the Colony, with an attendance of 32,989 scholars. The number of private school teachers was 2,038.

In addition to these, there were 7 grammar schools and colleges, the number of students in them being 1,142, and the number of masters or professors being 74.

TASMANIA.

TASMANIA.

No. 24.

No. 24.

Governor DU CANE to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Tasmania,
July 8, 1873.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship two copies of the statistics of Tasmania for the year 1872.

2. These statistics are accompanied by an elaborate introductory Report by the Government statistician, Mr. E. C. Nowell, which will give your Lordship full information as to the progress and condition of the Colony up to the close of last year.

3. There is no doubt that the general circumstances of the Colony

* The statistics for 1872 have not yet been received from the Education Department.

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as pointed out by Mr. Nowell at the close of his Report are in some respects more hopeful than they were a year ago. It must, however, be remarked at the same time, that this change for the better arises mainly from sources of a fluctuating and uncertain character, such as the recent rise in the price of wool, and an unusually productive harvest. If the depression which has for so many years prevailed in Tasmania is to be permanently arrested, the colonists will have not merely to improve their present very inferior system of agriculture, but to show more energy than they have done as yet in opening up fresh markets for their produce, and in developing their manufacturing and mineral resources.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES DU CANE.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

To the Honourable the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Legislative Council Office, Hobart Town,
May 30, 1873.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward to you the statistics of this Colony for the past year, 1872.

The first division, relating to

I.—*Population*,

principally consists of a summary of the Census of 1870, the results of which were examined in detail in previous Reports, and therefore presents but few points requiring to be noticed here.

Population.

The estimated population on 31st December, 1872, was 102,925, consisting of males, 54,418; females, 48,507. On the last day of the previous year the total population was 101,785. The increase in 1872 was, therefore, 1140, or 1·12 per cent.

The increase by excess of births over deaths was 1,602, namely, males 694, females 908, being 96 less than in the previous year.

During the year 1872 there were introduced under what is known as the "Bounty System" of immigration, 199 persons, of whom 182 were from Germany, 10 from England, and 7 from Ireland.

The number of other persons who arrived in the Colony during the year was 5,665, or 1,017 more than in 1871.

The number of persons who left the Colony in 1872 is returned as 6,127, or 801 more than in 1871.

Subtracting the arrivals from the departures, we find that there was a loss to the population by an excess of the latter over the former, of 462.

In the five years ending in 1870 there was, as shown in the Report for that year, an alternate increase and decrease by migrations; but since 1870 the balance has been on the wrong side.

II.—*Trade, Commerce, and Navigation.*

The value of the imports in 1872 is stated to have been 807,182*l.*, being an increase upon those in 1871 of 29,095*l.*, being at the rate of 3·74 per cent. In the previous year there was a decrease of 14,829*l.* In only two others (1866 and 1869) out of the last seven

years was there an increase, such increase in 1869 being caused by a large importation of plant for the Launceston and Western Railway.

The rate per head of population in 1872 was 7*l.* 16*s.* 10½*d.*; the rate in 1871 having been 7*l.* 12*s.* 6½*d.*

The following are some of the principal articles imported in those two years:—

Articles.	Value.	
	1872.	1871.
Clothing, &c.:*	£	£
Apparel and slops	225,274	199,938
Blankets and rugs	4,680	6,092
Boots and shoes	17,632	18,953
Hats and caps	1,357	2,127
Woollens	5,382	6,407
Bagging, corn sacks, gunny bags, wool sacks, and canvas	20,313	18,693
Candles, suet and tallow	7,870	4,329
Carpets and rugs	6,176	6,080
Coals and coke	8,735	10,680
Coin	40,000	—
Earthen and Glassware	4,955	8,331
Fruits, dried	4,213	7,350
Hides and skins	10,881	7,557
Ironmongery, agricultural implements, castings, iron fencing, hardware, cutlery, and plated ware	38,052	44,387
Iron and tin	17,502	15,222
Woodware	6,800	6,405
Live and dead stock	13,844	23,940
Machinery and mills	4,898	5,413
Liquors:†		
Malt	4,583	7,481
Wine	9,102	7,330
Spirits and cordials	19,954	21,608
Manure	12,529	17,214
Medicines and drugs	7,495	7,270
Oils (not including whale)	8,978	12,200
Oilmen's stores	5,451	4,361
Railway plant	17,855	9,539
Room and other papers	6,338	7,138
Rope and twine	5,160	4,700
Stationery and printed books	18,506	14,069
Sugar	115,818	121,902
Tea	33,441	40,370
Tobacco, Cigars and Snuff	12,716	13,058
Total	716,490	680,144

* Total Clothing, &c., 1872, 254,325*l.*; 1871, 233,517*l.* † Total Liquors, 1872, 33,639*l.*; 1871, 36,419*l.*

It will be seen that there is an increase of 20,808*l.* in clothing; while there is a decrease of 6,084*l.* in sugar; of 6,929*l.* in tea; of 342*l.* in tobacco, cigars, and snuff; and of 10,096*l.* on stock, live and dead.

On liquors there is a decrease of 2,780*l.*

On the whole of these articles there is an increase of 36,346*l.*, but this is due to an import of 40,000*l.* worth of coin in 1872; so that, excluding this, there would be a decrease of 3,654*l.*

It is hardly necessary, perhaps, to mention, what is so familiar to everyone who is acquainted with the Customs returns, that the values above shown are not those of the quantities taken out for home consumption, but merely of those imported during the year.

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The value of the imports derived from each country for the two last years is shown below:—

Countries.	Value of Imports.	
	1872.	1871.
	£	£
United Kingdom	309,199	272,797
Victoria	259,050*	407,294
New South Wales	55,715*	34,545
Queensland	12,380	7,785
New Zealand	960	2,260
Mauritius	66,183	45,151
Hamburg	180	—
Maldon Island	—	2,520
South Seas	3,515	5,735
Total	807,182	778,087

* Each of these amounts includes coin, 20,000*l.*

The United Kingdom seems to have taken a considerable part of the trade carried on in the previous year with Victoria. With New South Wales (excluding specie) the trade was nearly the same. With Queensland our commercial relations in respect to imports improved; with New Zealand they declined considerably.

Exports.

The total value of the exports in 1872 was 910,663*l.*, against 740,638*l.* in 1871, being an increase of 170,025*l.*, or at the rate of 22·96 per cent. In the previous year there was an increase of 14·17 per cent.

The rate of exports per head of population in 1872 was 8*l.* 16*s.* 11½*d.*, against 7*l.* 5*s.* 6¼*d.* in 1871.

The value of the exports to the different countries was, for 1872 and 1871:—

Countries.	Value of Exports.	
	1872.	1871.
	£	£
United Kingdom	462,486	337,508
Victoria	290,769	262,734
New South Wales	99,552	86,119
Queensland	6,188	7,905
South Australia	13,939	12,695
New Zealand	36,964	32,332
Hong Kong	—	1,190
Fiji Islands	—	155
Guam	765	—
Total	910,663	740,638

The exports to the principal countries are thus shown to have uniformly increased, with one exception—that of Queensland. It is to be regretted that our trade has not been extended. There is a large and permanent demand for horses in the Indian market, which might be supplied in great measure from this Colony; and it is not easy to see why a good trade with India might not also be done in jams and malt liquors.

The decennial return of principal exports shows the following result of comparing those for the last two years:—

Articles.	Quantities.		Values.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
			£	£
Bark, tons	36,79½	—	15,641	—
Bran and pollard, bushels	—	25,161	—	1,238
Butter and cheese, cwts.	—	75	—	73
Flour, tons	—	1,582	—	17,430
Fruit, preserved, lbs.	96,331	—	6,443	—
„ Green, bushels	—	1,600		
Gold, ozs.	475½	—	1,837	—
Grain, bushels	—	1,923	—	6,658
Hides, skins, and leather	—	—	10,780*	—
Hops, lbs.	216,135	—	15,944	—
Live stock, No.	1,605	—	10,291	—
Oil sperm, tuns	—	49	2,925	—
Timber	—	—	—	2,926
Vegetables, tons	—	5,820	—	3,109
„ bushels	—	8,240		
Wool, lbs.	743,808	—	135,973	—
			199,834	31,434
Excess of increase over decrease				£168,400

* Including rabbit skins.

Out of this total increase of 168,400*l.*, no less a proportion than 135,973*l.* was contributed by wool. Nor was this caused only by improvement in price, for there has been a progressive increase in the quantity in the last three years, the exports having been—

	lbs.
In 1870	4,146,913
1871	5,254,719
1872	5,998,527

It is a fact worthy of especial notice, that the quantity of wool exported in 1872 has never, except in the two years 1859 and 1868, been exceeded.

In hops and jams there was also a large increase in quantity as well as in value. These three articles being our staple products, it is satisfactory to observe that the supply continues to increase, and find profitable markets. Hops show an increase in quantity of 216,135 lbs., or 44·91 per cent., and in value of 15,944*l.*, or 6·88 per cent.

The export of bark was greatly in excess of any other year in the decade. So was that of hides, skins, and leather, the value of which was augmented to the extent of 6,365*l.* by rabbit skins. A gratifying fact is the increase in the number of sheep exported; and now that the Scab Act is in full operation, the improvement is likely to be progressive. For this climate being considered to be eminently favourable to the production of wool of the best quality, Tasmanian sheep may be expected to be more and more in demand for breeding purposes, as long as they are known to be free from scab.

In gold there was an increase of 475½ ounces. As to the produc-

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tion of this metal, there will be a more fitting opportunity to speak when considering the return relating to gold mining.

In horses there was an increase of 170, though the value is returned as less by 549*l.*: the average in 1871 being 30*l.* per head; in 1872, only 17*l.* I know not whether this decline in value was caused by a fall in the markets, or by deterioration in quality. If the latter be the case, it would show (considered in connection with the constant demand in India, and with the fact that superior horses will always bring a good price) that the falling off in the horse trade, which has so long been going on, is not so much the result of adverse circumstances as of neglect on the part of breeders to make use of their opportunities.

In bran and pollard there was a very large decrease; but the value is so small that the fact is not of much importance. A decrease far more to be regretted is that upon butter and cheese, the export of which is the smallest in the ten years. Such was also the case with flour.* Converting the excess of wheat as compared with 1871 into flour, the decrease would be 1144 tons. The export of oats was larger by 6,114 bushels, and was a fair average. On barley there was a falling off as compared with 1871 of about 50 per cent.; but the quantity shipped in 1872 was still larger than in any of the other nine years, and very much larger than in six out of the ten.

Other decreases are—in sperm oil, 94 tuns; in timber, value 2,926*l.*; in vegetables, 5,820 tons (more than 50 per cent.), and pease and beans, 8,240 bushels. The last is doubtless due partly to the restrictive system of the Colonies, and partly to the extension of cultivation, which renders them for the most part independent of foreign supplies.

Among the articles of home produce not included in the decennial return of exports we find—pigs, 1,380, valued at 2,742*l.*; oatmeal, tons, 140, valued at 3,000*l.*; pearl barley, 8 tons; groats, cwts., 157; pea flour, ton, 1; cask heads, 3,257; flax, case, 1; linseed, cwts., 91; iron ore, tons, 11; bricks, 6,120; hats and caps, packages, 4; malt, bushels, 4,440; malt liquor, gallons, 9,369; oysters and crayfish, packages, 508. Some of these are of considerable interest, as arising out of the establishment of new industries, which, if a free exchange of productions between the Colonies were permitted, might result in a considerable trade.

The total commerce in 1872 was represented by the figures 1,717,845*l.*, — an increase upon that of the previous year of 199,120*l.*, or 13·11 per cent., the increase in 1871 having been 5·35 per cent.

Shipping.

The total shipping in 1871 and 1872 was—

Years.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1871 - -	635	107,271	648	108,889
1872 - - -	594	102,379	595	103,101

* This arises from two causes:—1. The increase in production in the main-land Colonies, which makes them less dependent on external supplies; 2. The operation of Customs duties.

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There was a decrease, it will be observed, both in the number of vessels and in the tonnage. The total tonnage, both ways, has not been so small since 1867.

The following Table will show where this decrease occurred. It is not necessary to extend the comparison to shipping outwards.

Countries whence arrived.	Ships.		Tons.		Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Tonnage in 1872.
	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.	
United Kingdom - - -	13	11	6,537	5,273	− 1,264
British Possessions - - -	598	558	94,722	90,014	− 4,708
Foreign - - - - -	—	2	—	788	+ 788
Southern whale fisheries - -	24	23	6,012	6,304	+ 292
Total decrease in tonnage -	—	—	—	—	− 4,892

Compared with the returns for 1870, the decrease on shipping entered inwards was 3,268 tons. The whole of the decrease in 1872 occurred at the sub-ports, the tonnage there having been smaller by 5,256 than in the year before.

The number of ships on the registers on the 31st December, 1872 was smaller by 2 than in the corresponding day of the previous year; and the decrease in the tonnage was 387.

The steamers were the same in number in both years.

Whale fisheries.

In the whale fisheries the number of vessels employed in both years was also the same; but in the produce there was a considerable decrease in 1872. The number of successful ships and their produce for the last two years, were—

Years.	No. of Ships.	Tonnage.	Oil produced.		Value of Oil and Whalebone.
			Black.	Sperm.	
			Tuns.	Tuns.	
1871 - -	18	4,275	5	659	46,350
1872 - - -	12	3,070	13½	339	27,420
Increase - -	—	—	8½	—	—
Decrease - -	6	1,205	—	320	18,930

Coal.

The quantity of coal raised in 1872 was 8,141 tons, being 1,386 tons less than in 1871.

Prices.

Between the prices of home produce at Hobart Town in those years there were no very remarkable variations. Butter, potted, rose from 9*d.* to 1*s.* to 10*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*; cheese (no English being in the market) varied from 8*d.* to 9*d.* to 8*d.* to 1*s.*; for eggs the maximum advanced from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* per dozen; for flour, from 12*l.* 10*s.* to 14*l.* per ton; for wheat, from 5*s.* to 7*s.* per bushel; for hay, the minimum increased from 2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*, and the maximum from 3*l.* to 4*l.* 15*s.* Butchers' meat ranged as follows:—Beef, in 1872, from 3*d.* to 9*d.* per pound; in 1871, from 5½*d.* to 7*d.*; mutton, 1872, 3*d.* to 8*d.*; 1871, 2½*d.* to 6*d.* Straw rose from 2*l.* in 1871 to 2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* in 1872; while the price of potatoes varied from 3*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* per ton in 1871 to 2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* 15*s.* in 1872. The changes were therefore generally favourable to the producers.

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Rates of wages.

There are frequent variations between the rates of wages as shown in the returns for 1871 and 1872, but I cannot discover that they are reducible to any law or principle.

Trades and manufactories.

The return of trades and manufactories shows an increase in 1872 of agricultural implement maker, 1; auctioneer, 1; bakers, 13; basket-maker, 1; boot and shoe-makers, 34; brewery, 1; bricklayers, 7; brick-makers, 9; builders, 12; butchers, 13; chemist and druggist, 1; coopers, 4; fellmongers, 48; foundry, 1; furriers, 5; gardeners, market, 42; general dealers, 34; grocers, 3; gunsmith, 1; ironmongers, 8; maltsters, 3; mills, water, 5; millwright, 1; painter, &c., 1; pastrycooks and confectioners, 2; plasterers, 2; rope-makers, 4; tailors, 20; tin-workers, 4; tobacconists, 3; turners, 6; watch-makers, 2; woolstaplers and sorters, 4. A decrease is seen of blacksmiths, 4; bone-dust manufactory, 1; cabinet-maker, 1; candle manufactory, 1; carpenter, 1; cheese-makers, 18; corn and ship chandlers, 3; hawkers, 4; pottery, 1; publicans, 13; saddle and harness makers, 6; saw-mills, 2; ship and boat builders, 4; stonemasons, 4; tanner, 1; and wine merchants, 3.

III. *Finance, &c.*

Revenue and expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colonial Government for the year 1872 are shown in the subjoined statement, furnished by the Assistant Colonial Treasurer:—

GENERAL REVENUE, exclusive of DEBENTURES and EXPENDITURE under LOANS ACTS.

	1871.			1872.		
REVENUE.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Customs and bonding rents	140,987	0	8	138,232	1	9
Inland revenue	52,250	17	0	53,993	16	2
Other receipts	40,753	6	0	28,735	9	8
Estimated receipts outstanding	—			14,021	10	2
	233,991	3	8	234,982	17	9
EXPENDITURE.						
Ordinary expenditure	232,590	11	1	237,104	14	5
Estimated expenditure outstanding	—			1,500	0	0
	232,590	11	1	238,604	14	5

LAND FUND, exclusive of DEBENTURES and EXPENDITURE under LOANS ACTS.

	1871.			1872.		
REVENUE.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Territorial revenue	35,514	0	4	36,362	13	1
Other receipts	898	14	0	8	14	0
	36,412	14	4	36,371	7	1
EXPENDITURE.						
Ordinary expenditure	45,343	17	4	41,757	14	5
Reserve under Waste Lands Acts	7,318	16	9	8,417	14	9
Estimated expenditure outstanding	—			100	0	0
	52,662	14	1	50,275	9	2

W. LOVETT, Assistant Colonial Treasurer.

Colonial Treasury, 24th May, 1873.

The expenditure on account of the Imperial Government in 1872 was 35,344*l.* 18*s.*, being 2,572*l.* 12*s.* above that of 1871. Imperial expenditure.

The exchange with London was lower than in 1871. The bank rates for the purchase of mercantile bills at 60 days being, for the first half of the year, ¼ per cent. discount, and, for the latter half, ½; and the rates for the sale of bank bills, ¾ and ½ per cent. premium, against 1 per cent in both cases in 1871. The rates of discount, and of exchange with the other Australasian Colonies, were unaltered. Course of exchange.

The variations between the bank returns for 1871 and 1872 are considerable, and will be better shown by repeating the quarterly totals than by taking the average for those years. Banks.

	Assets.				Liabilities.			
	Specie and Bullion.		Debts due, including Notes, Bills of Exchange, &c.		Notes in Circulation.		Deposits.	
	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
First Quarter	176,794	167,372	1,086,661	1,007,428	84,772	80,721	677,238	711,156
Second ditto	185,576	167,839	1,041,044	956,929	83,862	83,539	666,216	711,738
Third ditto	179,637	177,340	1,026,684	912,762	74,908	79,393	623,193	715,049
Fourth ditto	173,426	207,327	1,038,933	894,132	75,717	78,851	658,098	739,557

In specie and bullion there was, as will be seen, a decrease in the first three quarters, but a considerable increase in the last. In the debts due to the banks there was a large decrease throughout. In the notes in circulation there was a decrease in the two first quarters, but an increase in the two last; while in the deposits there was a large and uniform increase. The diminution in the debts, and excess of deposits, seem to show that the amount of realized capital was considerably greater in 1872 than in the previous year. We should naturally have looked for such a result from the improvement in the price of wool as compared with what it was some time since.

The Table which follows shows the most important items of the Savings' Banks returns for the last three years:— Savings' banks.

Years.	Average Assets.			Average Liabilities.		Deposits during the Year.	Repayments during the Year.
	Mortgages.	Debentures.	Cash in other Banks and on hand.	Amount of Deposits.	Reserve Fund.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1870	134,492	87,189	19,595	223,262	23,648	119,120	109,065
1871	145,700	78,542	14,721	219,752	24,958	112,981	121,600
1872	135,930	88,704	23,778	226,822	26,685	121,059	109,095

The comparison is entirely in favour of the past year; and if we extend it back to 1866, or perhaps, further still, the result will be the same.

During 1872 the number and amount of money orders issued and paid by the Post Office were:— Post Office money orders.

Issued—	Number	5,820
	Amount	£21,171
Paid—	Number	5,102
	Amount	£19,325

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The system was established in 1865. From its commencement the increase has been continuous. Comparing therefore 1872 with 1866 (the first full year), the increases are found to be:—

On Number of Orders—	Issued - -	203·78 per cent.
	Paid - -	151·33 „
On Amount of Orders—	Issued - -	77·62 „
	Paid - -	122·89 „

These results show how largely the public convenience has been promoted by the operation of this means of transmitting small sums of money.

Public debt.

The public debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1872, was 1,455,900*l.*, having been increased by 161,500*l.* since the preceding year. The return shows that this debt was incurred for the following purposes:—Public works and immigration, 1,138,529*l.*; commutation of grant for religious purposes, 100,000*l.*; debt to Imperial Government, 30,500*l.*; to make good deficiencies in revenue, 186,871*l.*

Gold mining.

The return relating to gold mines shows that in 1872 the average number of persons employed in this industry was 530 (a part of whom, however, were not occupied continuously through the year), or 95 more than in the preceding year. The quantity of alluvial gold obtained was as nearly as could be ascertained, 3,795 ozs. Of quartz, 6,008 tons were crushed, producing 3,174 ozs., giving an average yield of 8 dwts. 14·46 grs. to the ton. The total quantity of gold produced was thus 6,969 ozs., the value of which was 27,314*l.* The average value per oz. was for alluvial gold 3*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*, the maximum being 4*l.*, and the minimum, 3*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; and for that extracted from quartz, 3*l.* 10*s.* 7·33*d.*, the maximum at Nine Mile Springs being 4*l.*, and the minimum (at Waterhouse), 2*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* Comparing the yield with that of the previous year, we find a decrease of 225 ozs. in alluvial gold, but an increase of 1,188½ in that from quartz.

The Commissioner at Fingal has furnished the following careful Report, dated 30th January last, containing some particulars which will be of much interest to those who are watching the progress of our industries:—

"Alluvial mining during the past year has greatly declined, the estimated yield from the Reedy Marsh workings, Mathinna, being little more than a third of the yield during 1871.

"No new ground of any importance has been opened during the year, and the gold now obtained is principally raised from patches of ground in the old claims which have escaped the attention of former workers. This 'fossicking,' or 'grummeting' as it is called by the diggers, give returns varying from ten to thirty shillings per man per week, an occasional patch giving better results; and although such results are not likely to attract population from without, yet 'fossicking' will give a living for some time to come to those who understand digging and are not afraid of hard work.

"There are about 70 men employed in alluvial mining at the present time, the average number during the past year having been about 130. The yield of alluvial gold for the year is estimated at 1,100 ounces, valued at 4,345*l.*, being at the rate of 3*l.* 19*s.* per ounce.

"I am desirous once more to record my opinion that the alluvial deposits along the course of the South Esk River are well worth a trial by experienced miners.

"Quartz mining has been carried on with much more energy during 1872 than during 1870 or 1871, as the following Table will show:—

Claim.	Tons Crushed.	Gold obtained.		Value.	Yield per Ton.			Value per oz. where obtainable.
		ozs.	dwts.	£	ozs.	dwts.	grs.	
City of Hobart -	2002	1565	13	6115	—	15	15	3*l.* 8*s.* to 4*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*
East City of Hobart	32	6	4	24	—	4	—	
White Boy - -	35	95	—	370	2	14	7	3*l.* 18*s.* 0*d.*
Yellow Boy - -	96	54	16	210	—	11	10	3*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*
Champion - -	32	7	3	28	—	4	12	
Caledonian - -	559	358	7	1386	—	12	20	3*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*
Golden Gate, No. 1	201	118	6	413	—	11	18	3*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*
Golden Gate, No. 2	49	11	—	40	—	4	12	
Mathinna - -	29	8	8	32	—	5	19	3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.*
Monarch - - -	20	1	14	6	—	1	17	
City of Melbourne	43	10	5	40	—	4	18	
Perseverance - -	16	8	16	33	—	11	—	
Derby - - -	254	99	10	390	—	7	20	
Scandinavian - -	20	4	18	19	—	4	22	
	3388	2350	—	9106	—	13*	21	3*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.**

* Average.

"The reef gold varies in value from 3*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* per ounce to 4*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* per ounce, the latter price having been obtained for some of the City of Hobart Company's gold.

"The average value of the reef gold is 3*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ounce, and the average yield for the year has been 13 dwts. 21 grs. of gold to the ton of quartz.

"The cost of crushing is estimated at about 8*s.* per ton; but as there are only two batteries at work, those belonging to the City of Hobart and the Caledonian Companies, all the other claim-holders crush their stone at one or other of these batteries, the City of Hobart Company charging 12*s.* per ton, and the Caledonian Company charging 10*s.* per ton for crushing.

"As the City of Hobart Company is perhaps the best known and the most forward of any of the Companies in this district, I append the result of the Company's operations from the first crushing in 1871 until the end of 1872, including the returns from the East City of Hobart claim, which is held by the same Company, but exclusive of public crushing:—

Year.	Tons Crushed.	Yield per Ton.			Total Yield.			Value.
		ozs.	dwts.	grs.	ozs.	dwts.	grs.	
1871	454	1	7	23	634	13	10	2206 ozs. 10 dwts. 10 grs., at 3*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* per oz., say 8660*l.*
1872	2002	0	15	15	1565	13	0	
East City	32	0	4	0	6	4	0	
Total -	2488	0	17	18*	2206	10	10	

* Average.

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"The City of Hobart Company are now taking steps to test their ground at a greater depth than heretofore, and should their reef continue as good as it has proved in the upper workings, a great impetus will be given to quartz mining in this district.*

"Reefing at the present time is rather dull, but there are about 80 men at present employed on the reefs, the average number during the past year having been about 90.

"The whole of the returns for the past year refer to the Black Boy Gold Field, including the alluvial ground of Reedy Marsh and the quartz reefs round Mathinna.

"Mangana is at present practically extinct as a gold field, the Tower Hill Quartz Company, which was the only claim at work during the greater part of 1871, having ceased operations early in 1872.

"The population on the Black Boy Gold Field now numbers about 450 persons, who may be thus classified:—

Adult Males.	Quartz miners	80
	Alluvial miners	70
	Blacksmiths, splitters, woodcutters, carters and labourers employed in connection with reefing	45
	Publicans, tradesmen, and servants	35
	Unenumerated	40
	Total adult males	270
	Women and children	180
	Grand total	450

"Gold mining in this district has now arrived at a very critical point, but the results already obtained from our reefs should be an encouragement to those engaged in mining to hold their ground in the hope of better things to come."

The Commissioner at George Town, under date 8th March last, writes:—

"The quantity of gold stated to have been produced from quartz mines has been obtained from returns furnished by the managers. It is quite impossible to ascertain the exact quantity of gold procured in the district from alluvial drift. I have closely watched the operations of the miners during the year, and have estimated the probable quantity of gold found by them. The return cannot, of course, be looked upon as anything but an approximation. I have taken the lowest estimate in compiling it, but really I am inclined to think that a much larger quantity of gold has been procured. The Chinese especially are very reluctant to let us know the results of their labour;

* Since the date of this Report the reef has been proved at a lower level, about 200 feet from the surface, where it is from two to three feet thick, yielding as much as 1 oz. 14 dwts. nearly to the ton, with a large proportion of pyrites, which have not yet been treated.—E. C. N.

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but as they always appear to be well off, and to have a plentiful supply of cash, I am not disposed to think that I have averaged their earnings at too high a rate.

"Since the close of the year the quartz-crushing machines have ceased to work. The large battery erected by the Shamrock Gold Mining Company at the Nine Mile Springs was recently sold to the promoters of a Company to manufacture iron in another port of the district. The battery upon the original Pioneer Reef at Waterhouse is also now being removed, and gold-mining at that place has actually ceased.

"On the whole, the operations of the alluvial diggers have been highly satisfactory, and their numbers have considerably increased since the beginning of the present year, although by comparison with gold fields in the other colonies, the mining population here is still miserably small."

From the Hellyer the Report (dated 14th February) as to past operations is not favourable. My informant states:—

"The diggers actually at work profess to be sanguine, but scarcely anyone else whom I meet in the district retains much hope.

"Rumours of good finds, as is usual in such cases, are occasionally flying about, but are received with great caution, and are rarely confirmed eventually.

"The country is very rough, steep always, and often encumbered with 'horizontal scrub.'

"Freight of goods to the diggings from the township (Wynyard) rules at 15*l.* a ton.

"The river runs through a steep narrow gorge, and is therefore subject to sudden and considerable rises, rendering working in the bed of the river a very ticklish undertaking; so much so, that no one has ventured to risk the necessary capital to give it a thoroughly fair trial.

"People began working the locality much too early in the year, when the country was still too wet, and the river too high and too liable to fluctuations of level, and were thus constantly being thrown into enforced idleness, and wasted their means and suffered discouragement."

IV.—*Establishment, &c., maintained or assisted by Government.*

Post Office.

The number of letters, packets, and newspapers which passed through the Post Offices in the past year were as follows:—

	Received.	Despatched.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−)	
			Received.	Despatched.
Letters - - -	990,187	1,032,533	+37,375	+34,044
Packets - - -	31,393	25,692	+4,897	+2,910
Newspapers - -	642,104	856,611	−43,052	−34,209

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The expenditure on account of the postal department (notwithstanding that two additional offices were established) was less by 2,295*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* than in 1871. The revenue cannot be exactly ascertained, since the Stamp Act provides that Post Office stamps may be used for the purposes of that Act.

Electric telegraph.

The return relating to the electric telegraph shows that through the land line 24,254 messages were passed in 1872, being 3,719 more than in 1871. On the total value of the messages there was an increase of 670*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* The expenditure of 1872 was less than that of 1871 by 123*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*

Launceston and Western Railway.

The Launceston and Western Railway having been taken over by the Government in the course of the year, the returns relating to it appear for the first time in the statistics of the Colony. The expenditure for the year is shown to have been 13,786*l.* 9*s.*, being per train mile, 3*s.* 9·76*d.* per mile of road open, 306·36*l.* The revenue was 13,636*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, being per train mile, 3*s.* 9·24*d.* From passengers the receipts were 6,199*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*; from goods, 5,645*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.* The total number of passengers conveyed was 63,647; the total quantity of goods, 18,111 tons.

Marine Boards.

The cost of the 45 miles now completed and open is stated to have been—Construction, 429,903*l.*, average per mile, 9,553·4*l.*; rolling stock, 30,097*l.*, average per mile, 66·88*l.*

The receipts of the Marine Boards were in the aggregate, 8,659*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*; the expenditure, 8,180*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* On the former there was a decrease as compared with those of 1871, of 223*l.* 15*s.*; on the latter an increase of 358*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*

Lighthouses.

The expenditure on account of lighthouses in 1872 was 4,866*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*, being slightly larger than in the previous year. The amount of light dues received (2,080*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*) was smaller by 182*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.* The sum of 4,444*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* was received from the Australian Governments as their proportion of the expense for 1870–1, and part of 1872.

Salmon-breeding establishment.

The only point in connection with the salmon-breeding establishment which need be mentioned is the work done by its aid during the year. That part which consists in the distribution of ova and fry is shown in the subjoined return furnished by the Secretary to the Commissioners:—

Return showing the distribution of Ova and Fry, from the Breeding Ponds, River Plenty, during the year ending 31*st December*, 1872.

OVA.

Salmon Trout—Launceston	400
Brown Trout—New South Wales	500
Victoria	5,500
New Zealand	3,100
East Coast Rivers, Tasmania	500
Launceston	600

FRY.

Salmon Trout—Swansea		20
	Huon	81
Brown Trout—Swansea		180
	Upper Derwent	350
	Victoria	510
	Upper Derwent	350
	Kermandie	200
	Mountain River	400
	Jordan	250
	Total	12,941

Penal and charitable institutions.

The number of inmates and net expense of the penal and charitable institutions under the control of the Government, or assisted by it in 1872, is shown in the statement which follows:—

Institutions.	Average Number chargeable to		Proportion of Expense chargeable to					
	Imperial Government.	Colonial Government.	Imperial Government.			Colonial Government.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
PENAL.								
Port Arthur*	311	221	8,826	8	8	6,251	5	7
Gaol for Males, Hobart Town	3	157	59	16	5	3,710	3	10
Ditto for Females, ditto	1¼	91¾	16	2	11	1,185	1	0
Ditto, Launceston	4¼	113	123	2	10½	2,676	17	3
Reformatory, Cascades	3½	35½	4	6	0	331	3	4
Total Penal	323	618¼	9,029	16	10½	14,154	11	0
CHARITABLE.								
Cascades Pauper Establishment	19½	258½	193	13	7¼	2,567	7	10¾
General Hospital, Hobart Town	3⅓	80½	129	13	0	3,129	14	4
Ditto, Launceston	½	63¼	17	3	7	2,587	12	10
Invalid Depôt, ditto	1	127	11	16	4½	1,494	6	4
Hospital for Insane, New Norfolk	34	259	758	14	8	4,699	10	7
Ditto, Campbell Town	—	—	—			171	12	0
Queen's Asylum	17½	323½	281	14	4	4,999	0	2
Ditto Farm	—	—	—			493	1	6†
Brickfields Pauper Establishment	—	246⅔	—			2,757	15	2¼
Industrial School for Females	—	—	—			409	10	0
Benevolent Societies	—	—	—			1,484	18	8
Ragged Schools	—	—	—			300	0	0
The Boys' Home	—	—	—			344	13	5
Aborigines	—	—	—			60	0	0
Out-door Charitable Relief	—	—	—			9,206	13	6
Total Charitable	75⅚	1,358 5/12	1,392	15	6¾	34,705	16	5
TOTAL PENAL AND CHARITABLE	398⅚	1,976⅔	10,422	12	5¼	48,860	7	5

* For 1871 the proportions not being stated are arrived at by calculation.
† Net expenditure, not crediting milk and firewood supplied

Comparing these amounts with those in the similar Table in the Report for 1869, we find a reduction in the cost to the Colony of penal establishments of (in round numbers) 5,327*l.* On that of charitable establishments there appears to be an increase of 8,272*l.* But deducting the charge for out-door charitable relief, which in the present case amounts to 9,206*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, the total for 1872 would be 934*l.* less than in 1869; or, adding to the total for 1869 the sum expended, 5,511*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, which was not included in the tabular statement of the Statistical Returns for that year, there would be an increase of 2,761*l.* The increase, therefore, was caused entirely by the growing demands on account of the out-door relief.

Road Trusts. The return relating to road trusts is at present incomplete, some of the districts having neglected to send in the information required from them, and the same difficulty is experienced year by year. Sometimes where this cause of complaint does not exist, there is another, which gives hardly less trouble—inaccuracy, arising in some cases from absolute want of sufficient education to comprehend and apply the ordinary principles of account-keeping. The change in the law made by the Cross and Bye Roads Act of 1870, by which the Trustees were directed to make up their annual accounts to the end of February, instead of to the end of December, as was previously the case, causes much inconvenience in regard to the preparation of the statistics, by delaying for two months the rendering of the returns.

Municipalities. The receipts (including balances) of the municipalities of Hobart Town and Launceston were 34,580*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*; and the expenditure 34,199*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.* The rural municipalities had an aggregate of receipts of 21,574*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*, and of expenditure of 22,068*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*

Valuation of property. The annual value of property in the Colony, as shown by the valuation rolls, in 1872, was—

	£
In municipalities of Hobart Town and Launceston -	159,376
In rural municipalities - - - - - -	338,846
In police districts - - - - - -	102,254

amounting together to 600,476*l.*, which is lower by 23,146*l.* than it was in 1871.

V.—*Crown Lands.*

Land sold. The sales of Crown land during 1872 were:—

Description of Land.	Number of Lots.	Area.			Proceeds of Sale.			Average price per Acre.		
		A.	R.	P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Country lots - - - -	303	25,782	1	4	29,993	8	2	1	3	3
Town and suburban lots - -	57	382	3	29	1,890	11	8	4	19	0
Total - - - -	360	26,165	0	33	31,883	19	10			

As compared with the corresponding figures for 1871 there was an increase in the number of lots of 69, and in the amount realized of 4,107*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*; in the average prices there was also an increase

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—of country lots of 5*s.* 8¾*d.* per acre; of town lots of 1*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* On the area of land sold there was a decrease in 1872 of 4,718A. 3R. 5P.

Land leased.

The area of land leased in 1872 was 1,761,003 acres, producing a rental of 6,745*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* On the former there was an increase of 364,997 acres; on the latter, of 597*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*

Gold fields.

The number of lots and area of land held under "The Gold Fields "Act," in the last two years were—

Years.	Miners' Rights.	Water Rights.	Business Licences.	Gold Mining Leases.		Prospecting Claims.	Machinery Areas.
				No.	Area.		
	No.	No.	No.		Acres.	No.	No.
1871 - -	*	4	18	15	810	3	10
1872 - - -	855	4	14	26	474	1	10

* Not ascertainable; number issued in 1871, 516; in 1872, 810.

The amount received on account of the occupation of land at the gold fields in 1872 was 831*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, against 1,190*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* in 1871. The number of miners' rights issued in 1872 was, however, greater than in 1871 by 294.

Mineral leases.

Under "The Mineral Leases Act, 1870," there were granted in the past year eight leases, of an aggregate area of 565 acres—five for the purpose of iron mining, at Ilfracombe; one for tin-mining, at Mount Bischoff; one for slate-quarrying, at Piper's River; and one for coal-mining, at New Town.

Minerals:—Iron.

At the present time, when the extraordinary advance in the price of iron and coal makes it a matter of world-wide interest to discover any fresh sources of supply, it may not be without use to furnish such particulars as are obtainable in regard to the chief deposits of those minerals in Tasmania.

The subject of iron manufacture has, as no one in the Colony need be reminded, for some time occupied a considerable share of public attention, and one company has not only been formed, but has erected furnaces near Ilfracombe, on the west bank of the Tamar. In this district there are large stores of iron ore, as to which the Government Geologist reported in 1866. He found four varieties, the principal of which is earthy brown hematite, crystallized brown hematite, and magnetic oxide, with earthy red hematite in smaller quantities. Unlike other iron ores which he observed in many parts of the Colony, these, he states, "appear to be contained in real "mineral lodes, or to be derived from the contents of such." As regards the principal deposit, he calculates on a rough estimate the cubic contents of a portion of the vein above the water level—300 yards in length by about 22 in width—at about 705,800 tons. "Assuming that only one half of this is rich ore—and I consider this "to be an estimate below rather than over the mark,—we have an "amount of 350,000 tons of rich ore lying above the water level, and "presenting every facility for being *quarried* in stopes at an ex-"ceedingly low rate per ton, the other moiety presenting equal "facilities of working; while every yard in depth below the water

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"level would yield, on the same calculation, 20,458 tons, without "taking into consideration the extension of the lode westward, which "would largely augment it. The ore contained in this lode is "brown hematite. . . . It will probably average from 55 to 60 "per cent. over a large portion of the lode. It stands out from the "surface in weathered blocks, and towards the upper end detached "masses of immense size occur. The largest of these blocks has the "following dimensions:—12 feet in height, 22 feet in length, and "15 feet broad."

Another deposit, similar in character, but much less extensive, he found on the end of the tramway on which the first is situated, and about ten miles from the shipping place. This also appeared to be a defined reef or lode containing brown hematite, of a less pure description than the ore just referred to.

At the Ironstone Hills, in the same district, about two miles from the water's edge, occur large boulders of iron ore, which, as Mr. Gould thinks, are likely to be "nothing more or less than what miners call "the back of strong lodes of magnetic oxide of iron." . . . . "In "fact, the drift below points to the existence of veins of magnetic "oxide of some size, while the magnitude of the surface deposit "renders it probable that that size would be considerable. I consider "that eventually these spots will become of great value."

Besides these deposits, which are on Crown land, others were found on private property, which presented indications of the existence of regular lodes.

As to the facilities for working these ores, Mr. Gould reports that limestone exists in the district in sufficient abundance, but coal has not yet been found in the immediate vicinity, though it might be readily brought by water from the mines at the Don, where, at the distance of about 30 miles, coal of excellent quality can be obtained.

Mr. Gould sums up the substance of his Report from which I have been quoting, by expressing his confidence "at least of this, that at "no very distant period the district in which iron ore of such quantity, "abundance, and favourable position occurs, must become one of the "most important in the Colony."

Iron ore in large masses is said to exist in other parts of the Colony, but of these, as far as I am aware, no scientific or careful examination has been made.

One of the most active promoters of the Company above referred to has, at my request, furnished me with the following analyses, which seem to me to be of sufficient importance to be inserted here: and, as to the second, he adds, "Understand, this is not an analysis of *ore* "or *stone*, but of the *red oxide of iron* or earthy matter of which our "land is almost wholly composed."

1. By Mr. George Foord, Government Chemist and Assayer, Melbourne, 1866:—

"The external characters of this mineral are those of magnetite, or magnetic oxide of iron; it conforms pretty closely to the fibrous variety described by Dufresnoy. Hardness over 6°, gravity 4·98, streak black, obedient to the magnet and susceptible of permanent magnetism.

"Like most of the examples of this mineral it has the sesquioxide

of iron somewhat in excess of the formula for magnetic oxide. This excess appears to exist in the sample partly or wholly as limonite.

Protoxide of iron	30·547
Sesquioxide of iron	66·151
Together	96·698
Difference of allumina, silicic acid, and water	3·302
In parts	100·000

"Preceding determinations were made by permanganate of potassium. The sample is free from other constituents such as are occasionally present in magnetite.

Metallic iron, per cent.	70·00
Existing as protoxide	23·76
Existing as sesquioxide	46·30
	70·06

"If this mineral exists in quantity, and under circumstances otherwise favourable for economic treatment, its high percentage of iron and its freedom from all obnoxious constituents will render it of great value for iron and steel manufacture."

2. By Mr. T. H. Forrest, Analytical Chemist, Glasgow, October, 1872:—

Analysis and Report on Sample of Hematite Iron Ore, received from Thomas Ellis, Esq., Coatbridge, 3rd September, 1872.

"The specific gravity of the sample (which was received in powder) is 3·26. The weight of a cubic foot is therefore 203·75 lbs.

Peroxide of iron	62·8	equal to iron	43·96
Protoxide of iron	1·8	" "	1·40
Manganese	13·21		
Sulphur and phosphorus	none.	Total	45·36
Lime and magnesia	traces.		
Silica and titanium	8·6		
Alumina	6·99		
Moisture	6·6		
	100·00		

"REMARKS.—The foregoing analysis shows the ore to be free from sulphur and phosphorus; it is therefore calculated to make iron of the very highest quality. The presence of such a notable quantity of manganese renders the ore particularly suited to the manufacture of the variety of pig iron known by the name of 'Spiegeleisen,' which is of such importance in the manufacture of Bessemer steel. It will be understood that these remarks are based upon the analysis alone. The applicability of any ore to the manufacture of the pig iron in the blast furnace depends very much upon its being sufficiently hard:

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a soft or friable ore can only be used in small proportion in the blast furnace."

Coal.

Coal, another commodity to which attention is at the present time especially directed, is distributed in almost every part of the Island. That found at the Don is said to be the best for steam purposes. At Mount Nicholas, in the Fingal district, is a seam of bituminous coal, stated to be 12 feet thick, from which there is a continuous descent to the sea, about twelve miles distant. Other seams, more in the interior, may become valuable as railway communication is extended to their vicinity.

Slate.

Slate has been discovered near Piper's River, and is now being utilized. It is said to be of good marketable quality. If it maintains that character, it ought to supersede the slates hitherto imported from Europe.

Tin.

Numerous and rich veins or lodes of tin have been found on and around Mount Bischoff. The small quantities hitherto exported (the difficulty of inland transit at present precluding its being conveyed in larger bulk) are understood to have yielded handsome profits; and I am informed by the Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works, who has personally examined the locality, that a sample of the stream tin which he forwarded to Melbourne for assay, produced over 60 per cent. of pure metal.

Stone.

Stone also occurs at many places on the coast, whence it might readily be shipped to the neighbouring Colonies.

These are some of the directions in which capital might be more or less profitably employed; and in view of the low rate of interest now prevailing, and the high price of two of the products mentioned —coal and iron—they are worthy of consideration.

Agricultural and live stock returns.

The fact that the agricultural returns from some of the districts are outstanding at the date of writing this paragraph (3rd June), obliges me again to publish the Agricultural Statistics for 1872–3 as an Appendix to this volume, and precludes any comment upon them. There have always as yet been a few such districts, whose negligence or inability to perform the work in proper time, keeps back the publication of the whole, and causes constant dissatisfaction to everyone concerned with or interested in the Annual Statistics. The defaulters this year are—Clarence, Glenorchy, Port Sorell, and Richmond. I find that last year Clarence did not send its returns until the 28th May, Glenorchy until the 2nd May, Port Sorell until 17th June, and Richmond until 21st May. But, with the exception of Port Sorell,* they had all furnished the information required of them before the present date. The Warden of Glenorchy accounts for the delay by the death of the collector on whom he placed his chief dependence, but the other districts have not assigned any reason for it. From Richmond, the superintendent of police informed me on the 12th May last that the returns were nearly completed, and that he would certainly forward them not later than the 15th.† It often happens that the districts whose returns are the most behind-hand are the smallest, and therefore have the least excuse for delay.

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* These were since received, complete, on the 9th instant.

† They are still outstanding, nor has any reply been received to various applications for them, 14th June.

It has long been with me a question whether the preparation of the Agricultural Statistics might not be facilitated by sending a schedule to each owner of stock or crops, but what has hitherto induced me to abstain from doing so is the fear that many would not fill it up correctly without the aid of the collector. In the case of those who cannot write, or have but little education or intelligence, it would be impossible, or if possible, unadvisable, to trust wholly to themselves to set down the required particulars. Perhaps, however, a union of both systems might be productive of improvement: that is, blank schedules might be sent by post to those who are considered capable of filling them up correctly; and as regards those who are not, the collectors might still go round as they are now required to do in every case, and take down the particulars in loco, correcting them, when necessary, with the aid of their own knowledge and intelligence. In this way, the returns may be obtained earlier, but as long as many of the collectors are not under the control of the Government who pays them, it will be impossible to deal effectually with cases of negligence.

Under a more perfect system the agricultural tables might be published in the Government 'Gazette' considerably earlier than is now possible, but they can never be completed as early in the year as those of the Australian Colonies, because the seasons here are at least a month later; and in making comparisons this should always be borne in mind. Another circumstance which presents a difficulty in this respect is the inequality of climate in Tasmania, caused by its mountainous character. In the interior and higher parts, where the weather is colder than near the coast, and in the more humid districts, the crops are proportionally later, and the returns must naturally be somewhat delayed. When such is the case, if undue pressure were put upon the collectors to force them to send in their returns by the appointed time, the result would be, that instead of statements of actual produce, we should in very many cases get only vague estimates of grain still in the stack.

If, however, the defaulters who now delay the completion of the tables so long by their failure to transmit their returns in reasonable time, could be made to render them with all possible promptitude, the Agricultural Statistics might be published, according to the season, by the middle or end of May, and thus a month or six weeks might be saved.

Although unable to complete the tables, there are some points in the reports of the collectors which I am unwilling to let pass without comment. At Campbell Town there is stated to be a steadily increasing improvement in the breeding of sheep, and flock-owners from the Australian Colonies are said to have purchased at very high rates. At Longford it is reported that improvements are being made in underground draining. Some years since I was informed by a gentleman residing in this district that he had drained a field by tiles, which he had made on his own ground, and that the increase in the first year's yield paid all the expenses. At Sorell a slight increase in machinery is reported. At Ross, as I am informed, some low lands have been drained, and other lands have been brought under irrigation, "much increasing the value for fattening purposes." The

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collector at Franklin gives some interesting particulars relating to the growth of small fruit in his district, from which it appears that the quantity of raspberries SOLD to buyers from Hobart Town (independently, as it appears, of that which was made into jam on the spot) was 108½ tons. The quantity of jam made is stated to have been 75 tons, not including that intended for private consumption. While on this subject it may be well to mention, that I have been informed, on what must be regarded as good authority, that at and around Launceston during the past season, large quantities of fruit have been suffered to rot on the ground unused. It is certainly hard to understand why there is no jam manufactory at Launceston, and why some of the Hobart Town firms have not established branches there.

At Horton (or Russell), "a good many people," it is reported, "have been trying experiments in a small way in the growth of flax, "but they are too poor and too ignorant of the process involved to "venture boldly into such an experiment; and the results, as far as "they have gone, have not been very encouraging." It is pleasing to find that in this district "there is a marked improvement in the "condition of the farmers this year: better crops and better prices "have done good for them in one way, *while the trials of the last two "or three years have done good also in enforcing more careful and "economical habits.*" Industry and economy are the true secret of well-being, for they are constant, while seasons and prices are fickle and precarious. There is only one way to make cultivation succeed, and that is by taking advantage of the favourable years to lay by sufficient means to supply the deficiencies of the unfavourable: but this involves an amount of self-denial and forethought which is seldom found.

At Oatlands underground drainage is reported to be practised on a few farms, and with good results; and much attention is given to improving the breed of sheep and cattle, the result being that "fancy" prices have been obtained for prize stock.

At Westbury, it is stated, when labour is scarce in harvest time, reaping and mowing machines are much used, though why only then, I am unable to comprehend. The double-furrow plough is mentioned as being extensively employed in this district. Farmers seem slow to recognize the fact that one double plough will do as much as two single ploughs, with no additional expenditure beyond that of one horse—so that the cost of a man and horse is saved. There is another important point raised in the Report from this district. Where a failure in the grain crops has taken place, it is attributed to want of drainage; and the collector very sensibly adds: "If the tenant "farmer received such encouragement from his landlord as would "enable him to make drains of a permanent nature, in a few years the "outlay would well repay" both. The landlord might either do the work himself, charging the tenant with interest on the money expended; or the tenant might do it, receiving a quid pro quo in the shape of a lease for a certain number of years, and some other consideration for his outlay. Horses are stated to be in such demand in this district, that nearly double the price ruling in the last four years can be obtained for them.

From Port Sorell, also, the Report is highly favourable. "The

"prices," I am informed, "are better; there is more foreign capital in "circulation; and the prospects of next year look much brighter than "they have done for years;" the use of machinery is increasing, and anticipations are indulged that the working of the mineral deposits in the north-western country will increase the demand for local produce.

There seems to have been a general improvement in regard to the keeping of stock, caused by the advance in prices; while the state of agriculture, with a few exceptions, was nearly stationary. And such must continue to be generally the case as long as the farmers remain in their present condition of sluggishness and isolation, and allow local jealousies to stand in the way of united action.

VI.—*Law, Crime, &c.*

The committals in 1872 were 123, being 14 fewer than in 1871. Crime.

The number of persons tried in the Supreme Court and in the Recorder's Court at Launceston was 108, of whom 82 were convicted. Of the former number 25 were offenders against the person, and 83 against property; 95 were tried for felonies, 13 for misdemeanours.

It will be seen from the following Table, commencing with 1866, that there has been a regular decrease in crime throughout the period. To the continuous diminution in the number of committals, and of cases of drunkenness, there are no exceptions.

Years.	Committed for Trial.	Offenders dealt with			
		By Superior Courts.		By Magistrates.	
		Tried.	Convicted.	For Drunkenness.	For other Offences.
1866 - -	238	200	155	*	*
1867 - -	227	174	127	1842	5554
1868 - -	178	139	99	1624	5850
1869 - -	155	112	81	1595	5711
1870 - -	138	110	83	1569	5155
1871 - -	137	105	74	1407	4956
1872 - -	123	108	82	1240	5081

* No return for this year.

There were no executions in 1872. Indeed, during the last seven years only three persons have suffered the extreme penalty of the law.

In the past year 139 inquests were held on persons, against 161 in 1871. Curiously enough, the number of males who became the subject of them was in both years the same, namely, 108. Inquests.

The returns of litigation (combining those of the Supreme Court in its Small Debts Jurisdiction, and of the Courts of Requests) show a decrease in 1872 of 206 in the number of summonses issued, and of 1,157*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* in the amount sued for; an increase of 79 being however observed in the cases tried, and of 353*l.* 8*s.* 5¾*d.* in the amount of verdicts obtained. Litigation.

On the writs of summons issued by the Supreme Court in its ordinary course of business there was a decrease of 91, or 25 per

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cent. nearly; and on the number of causes tried, of 3, or nearly 18 per cent.

Probates, &c. Probates and letters of administration were granted in 74 cases, the value of the property being sworn under 83,542*l.* As compared with the previous year, there was a decrease in the number of 11, and in the value, of 6,045*l.*

Bankruptcies. The proceedings in bankruptcy were much more numerous than in 1871; 12 persons having been adjudicated bankrupt against 9 in the previous year, and 35 having presented petitions for liquidation by arrangement, instead of 16.

Mortgages and bills of sale. The mortgages upon land registered in 1871 and 1872 under both systems were—

	1871.		1872.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£
Under the old system - - -	254	129,336	250	119,537
Under the Lands' Titles Act - -	139	41,487	127	40,553
Total - - - -	393	170,823	377	160,090

A return has been added this year of bills of sale, which completes the incumbrances upon property of all kinds registered during the year. The number of bills of sale (including renewals) was 173, and the amount secured by them, 92,680*l.*

Grant deeds. There were registered in 1872, 325 grant deeds, being 65 more than in 1871.

VII.—*Education, &c.*

Public schools. The returns relating to schools under the Board of Education show that 9 additional schools were opened in 1872. The number of distinct scholars on the rolls during the year was 9,979, the average being 6,938; average daily attendance 5,224; the number who entered during the year 3,641; number who left 2,676; number of teachers and assistants 216, and of pupil teachers and monitors 41. On the average daily attendance there was an increase of 37; and on the average number on the rolls, of 152.

The amount paid to teachers by the State, in salaries, gratuities, &c., was 10,905*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*; in house allowance, 531*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; together 11,437*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*; besides which they received in school fees from parents or guardians 3,853*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*, making a total income of 15,290*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* On school buildings, in rent, repairs, furniture and fittings, and on school books and other requisites there was expended the sum of 733*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*, making the total cost to the State of the public schools 12,170*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*; the amount for each child, calculated on the average daily attendance, being 2*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*

Scholarships, exhibitions, &c. The expenditure on account of the Council of Education (including 400*l.* for two university scholarships) was 711*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*; and for exhibitions tenable at the higher schools in the Colony, awarded partly by the Council and partly by the Board of Education, 565*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*

Friendly societies. In regard to friendly societies I shall only remark that the number

of those which filed returns, as required by the law, was smaller in 1872 than in the previous year; and that it is very desirable, not only for statistical purposes, but also for the protection of the societies themselves, that the provisions of the Act in this respect should be complied with.

VIII.—*Vital Statistics.*

During 1872 there were registered the births of 1,527 males and 1,486 females, together numbering 3,010, being a decrease of 40 as compared with 1871. The ratio of males to females was as 102·76 to 100. The birth-rate per 1,000 of population in 1872 was 29·27. Births.

The number of deaths registered in that year was 1,411, of which 833 were those of males, and 578 of females. The death-rate, including 5 convicts under punishment at Port Arthur, whose deaths were not registered, was 13·76 per 1,000, being 0·45 in excess of the rate in 1871 (13·31), which was the lowest of any year, with the exception of 1865. The deaths of children under one year were at the rate of 21·69 per cent. of the whole number of deaths registered. Deaths.

It is worthy of mention that two deaths were those of persons of 100 years and upwards, and 10 of persons between 90 and 100, 55 being between 80 and 90.

The 1,411 deaths registered were classed as follows:—

		Males.	Females.
I. Zymotic	Miasmatic Diseases	91	111
	Enthetic	4	2
	Dietic	7	5
	Parasitic	7	2
		109	120
II. Constitutional	Diathetic	53	35
	Tubercular	82	71
		135	106
III. Local	Diseases of the Nervous System	145	89
	Organs of Circulation	54	28
	Respiratory System	93	58
	Digestive Organs	44	41
	Urinary Organs	20	8
	Organs of Generation	—	5
	Locomotive System	1	1
	Integumentary System	4	—
		361	230
IV. Developmental	Of Children	19	12
	Of Adults	—	14
	Of Old Persons	94	44
	Diseases of Nutrition	25	17
		138	87
V. Violence	Accident or Negligence	67	22
	Homicide	5	—
	Suicide	6	—
		78	22
	Unspecified Causes	12	13

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In the hospitals (not including that for insane persons) 1,361 cases were treated during the year, and there occurred 164 deaths, being at the rate of 12·05 per cent., against 14·20 per cent. in 1871. At the Queen's Asylum 326 cases were treated (the average daily number through the year being 246½) without any death.

At the penal establishment, Port Arthur, the mortality—calculated on the average daily number—was 4·80 per cent.; at the Cascades, adults, 10·20 per cent., children (average age 5), 11·76 per cent.; at the gaol, Launceston, adults, 2·83 per cent.; at the invalid depôt, Launceston (average age 69), 21·09 per cent.; at the invalid depôt, Brickfields (average age 70), 10·94 per cent.; at the hospital for insane, New Norfolk (average age 45), 6·45 per cent.

Meteorology.

Turning to the Meteorological Tables, it appears that at Hobart Town the mean height of the barometer in 1872 was 29,837 inches; temperature, 57·34; diurnal range, 21·87; solar intensity, 93·30; terrestrial radiation, 42·16; humidity of air, 0·71; elastic force of vapour, ·334; ozone, 7·64; wind force, for the month, 60·47 lbs. per square inch. The total rainfall in the year was 31·76 inches, being 9·05 above the 30 years' average; and the number of days on which rain fell, 160, being 20 above the average. The mercury was lower, the temperature higher, the diurnal range greater, solar intensity, radiation, and (somewhat strangely) humidity were lower; elastic force of vapour and ozone in excess of the average.

Conclusion.

On the whole, we have found an improvement, as compared with the previous year, in the imports and exports; in prices of home produce; in the number of trades and industries; in the amount of money deposited in the banks; in the number of letters and packets which passed through the Post Office, and in the number and amount of Money Orders; in the business of the Telegraph Office; and in the sales and rental of Crown lands. On the other hand, there was a decrease in the revenue; but a change has already taken place in this respect, and the receipts since the close of 1872 have risen considerably. The revenue of 1873 may therefore be expected to contrast favourably with that of the previous year. There was also a decrease in shipping.

The improvement seems to be due principally to the increase in both quantity and price of wool, to the increase in hops, and to a good harvest and better prices for produce. Harvests are uncertain, since they depend upon the seasons; and it is therefore very desirable that we should have some less precarions source of income, such as mines and manufactures. I believe that there are many ways in which capital could be profitably employed, but past experience seems to show that our only hope lies in attracting it from abroad.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. C. NOWELL,
Government Statistician.

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No. 25.

Governor WELD to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Government House, Perth, 12th July, 1873.

IN transmitting to you the Colonial Secretary's Report on the Blue Book for the past year, I will only add that the progress of last year bids fair to be surpassed by that of the current one, and that up to the present time the prospects of the agriculturalists are good, the weather having been most favourable; I dare not, however, after the experience of the past seasons, rely upon the wheat crop, whilst our agriculturalists in some districts seem unwilling or unprepared to give their attention to any other.

2. It is a matter of regret that the timber trade, instead of increasing, should have fallen off, but it cannot be a matter of surprise, for it appears that very inferior timber has been hitherto in some cases shipped, instead of good and well-seasoned jarrah; moreover, shipping has been almost unobtainable, owing, I believe, chiefly to the great activity of the Newcastle (New South Wales) coal trade; these causes have led the West Australian Timber Company almost entirely to suspend its operations; but their manager here states that they have timber cut and ready for exportation, to the value of twenty thousand pounds (20,000*l.*), and the Colonial Secretary, who saw the Melbourne Directors on his way to the Intercolonial Postal Conference, is of opinion that their capital and plant will not long be allowed to remain unreproductive.

3. The Wanliss or Rockingham Timber Company, though they have exported little, have supplied a considerable amount of timber for colonial works. I am informed that since the Sydney Exhibition there is reason to expect that large orders for jarrah will be received. Jarrah has been recommended by the Engineer for Harbour Works at Sydney. Inquiries are made from California, the Cape, New Zealand, and other countries, and I see no reason at all to doubt that the trade will revive and attain that importance which was predicted for it by Mr. Doyne, the eminent civil engineer, and others.

4. The progress of all our industries has been highly satisfactory, and I need add nothing further to the Report.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) FRED. A. WELD,
Governor.

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
30th June, 1873.

SIR,

On my return from Sydney, on the 14th instant, I found that the Blue Book for the past year, which had been creditably compiled in my absence by my chief clerk, Mr. George Phillips, had been

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transmitted to Her Majesty's Secretary of State, by the May mail, and that in the Despatch which accompanied it, your Excellency stated that my Report would be forwarded by the succeeding mail. The short interval between my arrival and the departure of the mail on the 19th instant, will, I trust, be sufficient excuse for the delay.

Statistics.

2. The statistics of the Colony show a steady progress in many respects, and the figures below cannot be viewed otherwise than in a satisfactory light in the face of a stationary population, a decreasing Imperial expenditure, and a very general failure of the wheat crops from a recurrence of the scourge of "red rush," which has again caused distress and hardship among the agricultural portion of the population.

	1871.	1872.
	£	£
Revenue - - -	98,605	105,301
Expenditure - - -	107,148	98,248
Imports - - -	198,011	226,656
Exports - - - -	199,281	209,197
Tonnage (entered) -	62,279	69,309
Do. (cleared) -	64,669	68,411

Public works loan.

3. The sanction of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies to a small loan of 35,000*l.* has enabled several public works of an important nature to be undertaken, that would not probably have been attempted for some time from current revenue. Some of these works will be in a great measure self-supporting, and will do much to facilitate business and generally to supply wants much needed in various parts.

Amended tariff.

4. To meet the expense connected with this loan an amended tariff with increased duties on various articles was passed, and many articles which had been hitherto subject to an ad valorem were charged with specific duties. An attempt was made by some members of the Legislative Council to place a protective duty on flour, which was not successful, but an import duty was (in opposition to the wish of the Government) made payable on wheat and grain of all kinds, on hay, butter, meat, and other articles which are not as yet produced in sufficient quantity to meet the requirements of the Colony.

Mines.

5. A considerable impulse has been given to mining operations, and the continual discovery of fresh lodes of copper and lead of rich quality is creating attention in the neighbouring Colonies, from whence more than one company has been formed to prosecute works in Western Australia. The further discovery of gold in quartz reefs in quantities that would pay well elsewhere to work, leads me to regret that the proposal made by the Government to secure a vote thoroughly to prospect the country was unsuccessful.

Telegraphic communication.

6. The extension of telegraphic communication to King George's Sound, and the progress of the line to Champion Bay, have done much to bring all settled parts of the Colony more closely together, and if the lines continue to be used as they have hitherto been, the returns will not only meet the interest on the money that has been expended, but give in addition a considerable sum to the general revenue.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Timber.

7. The Rockingham Timber Company has nearly completed its railway, and will shortly be prepared to supply jarrah timber in large quantities. The exertions made by this company to open a great trade with various ports of the world are exceedingly praiseworthy, and they well deserve all the success they may, and I trust will, meet with. The export of jarrah during the year has been very small, little in excess of of 2,000*l.* in value, but it requires no foresight to be assured that it must rapidly increase and will shortly put into the shade the return of sandalwood exported, which in 1872 exceeded 31,000*l.*

Pearl shell fishery.

8. This industry is becoming one of an important nature and bids fair to attract attention from places outside the Colony. The exports during the year amounted to 185 tons, and were valued at 140*l.* per ton, and at this rate would amount to about 26,000*l.* The real value I believe to be nearer 200*l.* per ton, and there is good reason to believe that a much larger quantity and at a more remunerative rate will appear in the return of the current year. A considerable number of pearls, some of them of great value, have been exported, but it has been found impossible to arrive at any correct estimate, though I believe I am within the amount in assuming the sum to be in excess of 6,000*l.*

Sericulture.

9. The attempts made to introduce the cultivation of the mulberry with a view to the production of silk, promise to be successful, several persons having prepared land and commenced work in earnest. Samples of cocoons from hence have been pronounced of first-class quality, and there is little doubt that as regards soil and climate few places are so well adapted for the establishment of this industry.

Concluding remarks.

10. The year 1872 has not been one marked by events of a stirring nature. Steady progress has been made in more than one direction, and the commercial interests of the Colony were perhaps never on a sounder footing. The debentures issued for the small loan have been purchased in the Colony at a premium, and there is a general feeling that the country is moving onwards.

The readiness of the Eastern Colonies to admit a representative for Western Australia at the Intercolonial Conference of 1873, may be looked on as a proof that, in their opinion, the time had arrived when she should be no longer debarred from exercising a voice in Australian councils, and the great interest evinced in all that relates to the Colony and her resources leads to a belief that the future and early prosperity of the Colony is perhaps more earnestly credited by those beyond its precincts than by those within its boundaries.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) FRED. P. BARLEE.

His Excellency Governor Weld,

&c. &c. &c.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 26.

No. 26.

Governor D'ARCY to the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Stanley, Falkland Islands,
March 22, 1873.

MY LORD,

IN accordance with the regulations I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1872, with the following Report:—

1. *Imports and Exports*

show an increase in value of 726*l.* in the imports, and an increase of 6,743*l.* in the exports.

2. *Legislation.*

The following Ordinances were passed in 1872:—

1. The Land Ordinance of 1872.
2. Savings' Bank Ordinance.
3. Naturalization Ordinance.
4. Marriage Amendment Ordinance.

3. *Shipping.*

The following ships arrived in distress:—

	Tonnage.
Francis	704
Monarch	1,444
Henry Bath	490
Fifeshire	699
Ladoga	865
Prince Hassan	399
Prince Hassan (put back a second time)	399
Brunette	332
Cecilia	611
Terzo	993
Mandarin	320
D. H. Dade	350
Egeria	1,066
Haye	862
Doldney	330
Oxford	916
Star of India	1,697
Lady of the Lake	307
Total	12,784

The following ships put in for water and provisions:—

	Tons.
Benton	952
Golden West	99
Anglesey	1,018
Leon Crespo	696
Columbia	1,471
H'Oenig Ivendorf	386
Flying Fish	74
Edeline	499
St. George	392
William Gifford	241
	5,828

Such figures show the necessity of retaining this port as a harbour of refuge; the shelter it has afforded to the merchant marine of all nations is incalculable.

4. *Births, Deaths, and Marriages,*

are as follows; from a population now of 950, 14 deaths have taken place (2 accidental), 43 births (21 male, 22 female), with 7 marriages.

5. *Public Works.*

The new gaol is now completed by the labour of the Royal Marines, adding considerably to the appearance of the town, being the only dwelling in Stanley, besides Government House, which may be termed a house.

6. The Government School, under the zealous care and superintendence of Bishop Stirling, has received much benefit. His Lordship met a difficulty under which it had suffered with prompt organization; the children having of late years increased considerably in numbers, it was found impossible for one schoolmaster to instruct 100 children, but during the last six months of 1872 the bishop established successfully the monitorial system which has worked exceedingly well, and he school is no longer a crèche. The expense of this undertaking, 48*l.* a year, has been borne by myself in three-fourths, and by the bishop in one-fourth; but we hope to be relieved from this charge by asking the parents to raise their school-pence from threepence the week to sixpence, which would not only meet the deficiency, but leave a small margin for the contingent expenses which are always occurring in a large scholastic establishment.

7. *Trade*

has, as I foretold last year in my Report, taken the route I expected: royalties have been paid for permission to work the guano in and about the small islands adjacent to the shore; but it can only be worked in the summer months, shelter, except of a very temporary

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kind, for the workmen being so difficult and expensive to procure. Several homeward-bound American schooners from the South Shetlands having put into Stanley for provisions, loaded to the water's edge with cargoes of sealskins valuing between 4,000*l.* and 5,000*l.*, a fresh impetus has been in consequence given to the sealing trade, and early next season an expedition of at least three schooners is going to venture for the first time to the South Shetlands on a sealing cruize; it will be attended with some danger, in consequence of the masses of floating ice which abound, so liable to crush the strongest vessel, and as there is no anchorage one schooner will be obliged to stand on and off the shore, while her consort attends to the fisheries in shore.

8. *Climate.*

Professor Agassiz has recently given to the world the theory that a branch of the Gulf Stream has within the last few years taken from the Gulf of Guinea a south-west course, embracing these islands; this may account for the temperate winters we have recently enjoyed to the great advantage of pastoral interests, for certain it is that twenty years ago the winters were much more severe than they are now. However, this might easily be tested by comparing the range of the thermometer in the logs of her Majesty's ships 'Erebus' and 'Terror' during the first commission of those vessels in 1842 when they wintered at Port Louis, with the meteorological returns recently forwarded to the Trinity Board by the keeper of the Cape Pembroke Lighthouse. The dead-level of cold which abounds throughout the year, although healthy and invigorating, has its drawbacks, inasmuch as it becomes necessary to have firing nearly all the year round; this necessitates service, which is difficult to obtain even at a great price, thereby reducing the income of the Government servants considerably. Bell-hour manual labour receives in the islands from 5*s.* to 6*s.* a day, but domestic labour being continuous demands much more.

The absence of consumption and fatal termination of pulmonary complaints in these islands is due, Surgeon Fisher of the Navy believes, to the sea-air which abounds in and around these islands: the operation of the sea-air on health is unexplained, and consequently cannot be regulated or rationally directed; but it is evident and very powerful, and still remains a noble field of observation for a scientific physician.

9. *The West Falkland Island*

presents interesting features which only require time to develop into a prosperous pastoral settlement; it furnished to the revenue during 1872 1,000*l.*, and is therefore entitled for the first time to a place in this Report.

The settlers, some ten in number, who have elected to commence life as sheep-farmers under the protection of British laws rather than in the more genial climate of the plains adjacent to the River Plate, where the laws are not respected, have sunk considerable sums in the purchase of stock, in construction of their dwelling-houses, and in their dipping apparatus: building in this island for some time to come

must continue to be very expensive, lumber being 5½*d.* the square foot in Stanley, which can be purchased in England at 1¼*d.*

The concessions granted by the Land Ordinance of 1871 have been of incalculable benefit to settlers on this island, more especially so to those who, acting as pioneers, first took up land on the West Island, and whose enterprising example was undoubtedly the cause of every acre of ground being taken up by more recent settlers, thereby securing a revenue to the Colonial Government of 1,000*l.* per annum, so much required since the Parliamentary grant has been decreased from 6,000*l.* a year to 3,500*l.* The first settlers were quite unable to meet their expenses, owing to the high rents originally enforced, and would have found it quite impossible to purchase the required amount of land at the expiration of five years, as stipulated in the original leases.

To understand the difficulties they had to encounter in stocking their land conformably with the then existing land regulations of the Colony, it is necessary to remember that the Proclamation under which the West Falkland settlers first took up their runs, was that which limited the term of the stocking licence to twelve months; this term would have been amply sufficient had it been possible to buy sheep on the East Island, but the only large flock-masters at that time were the Falkland Islands Company, who refused to sell, although 40*s.* a-head were offered for their sheep. The West Falkland settlers just arrived from England were therefore obliged to proceed to the River Plate for stock, and this immediately upon taking up their land, since, unfortunately for their interests, it is only possible during three months of the year to ship sheep from the warm climate of the Plate to so inclement a station as the Falklands; many of the lessees lost the opportunity, and those who did succeed in landing their unacclimatized stock were embarrassed considerably by having to construct houses for themselves to reside in before the ensuing winter, otherwise they would have simply perished. It is here much to be regretted that the first settlers on the West were unable to purchase sheep from the Falkland Islands Company, for it has been well ascertained that, had they commenced farming with the acclimatized breed of the Company, their flocks would, including the last lambing season, have numbered 60,000, whereas they are but 30,000 in number.

The expense and loss attending the carrying of sheep a distance of upwards of 1,000 miles, and from a hot climate to a cold one, was very great; nevertheless, understanding that the Government intended to insist upon the land being stocked within the twelve months, the settlers brought down from the River Plate a sufficient number of sheep to meet the requirements of the law, but in doing this they incurred enormous losses in two cases—out of 3,000 sheep shipped, in each case only 1,000 survived the winter.

It was just at this time, 1868, upon the expiration of the one year's licence, that the settlers received notice of a further year having been granted: in most cases this concession came too late; had it been granted earlier, and at the time of the settlers' application for it, they would have been saved several thousands of pounds.

It must also be remembered that the cost of erecting houses, woolsheds and fences, on an uninhabited island like the West Falkland

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which, I need hardly mention, has not a tree upon its surface, was very great in the first instance, goods, labour, and the charter of schooners being exorbitantly dear in the Settlement of Stanley; this expenditure, together with their losses in stock, told at a time when they had to complete the required number upon their runs, or lose their land,—it was in most cases with the greatest difficulty that they succeeded in doing so, having already the current expenses of their farms to provide for, together with an annual rent which some had to pay of hundreds of pounds.

It will easily be perceived that the first settlers, the pioneers of the West Falkland, found themselves in a very unfortunate position, their capital sunk in stock giving but a trifling return in wool, and yet with the incubus of a rent to pay.

Early in 1870 this deplorable state of things took place,—the West Island settlers were on the verge of bankruptcy. Your Lordship was, however, pleased favourably to consider my proposals for improving their condition by lowering the rental, and the compulsory purchase of land altered from five years to ten years after the date of the lease, and by the gift of the wild cattle. Without such concessions I am now assured it would have been impossible for the greater part of the settlers to have retained their stations; such a climacteric would have been sad to witness after they had in each case for the most part expended as much as 8,000*l.*, after having undergone great hardships in settling on this uninhabited island; notwithstanding all these sacrifices of time, labour and capital, ruin was before them, and they must have returned to Europe penniless, but the Land Law was bestowed in time to prevent so sad a calamity to the individual settlers, and moreover so detrimental to the future prosperity of the Settlement.

Under the existing Land Regulations there is every reason to believe that the sheep-farming interests on this island will prosper; houses have been erected in every part of the island. Six years ago a shipwrecked crew would have died of cold and hunger, but now within ten or fifteen miles, in whatever part they might be cast ashore, shelter and food is within their reach. Scab, the bane of sheep-farmers, is no longer to be dreaded, many flocks being entirely free from this disease: it must always be remembered that as long as it remains uneradicated the profits of sheep-farming must be reduced to a minimum.

The cure of this disease amongst the sheep was effected by the building of dip-yards, where the sheep are well bathed after shearing in a strong infusion of tobacco; this system was introduced by Mr. Bertrand, a New Zealand farmer, at some considerable outlay amongst the extensive flocks belonging to the Company, but the success which followed the mode of cure fully warranted the expense: it is now universally adopted by the farmers of both islands.

A great deal of attention is paid to improving the breed of the sheep by judicious crossing with English stock; several of the farmers have gone to considerable expense in bringing stock from England. The result of the cross between the Mestizo sheep and the Leicester has been to double the weight of the fleece, and to increase the value of the wool from 9*d.* to 1*s.*, to 1*s.* 3*d.* and even 1*s.* 6*d.* per pound!

The great want of the settlers has been regular mail communication, without which it is difficult to conduct their business: communication between the two islands was very rare; it is now improving as the West Island has been stocked, but still the difficulty exists: although only ten miles of sea intervenes between the islands, yet I have known the settlers remain four months without their letters after their arrival at Stanley! The last 200 miles from Stanley round to the West Falkland by water is more difficult to bridge over than the 14,000 miles from England, and when we take into consideration that the settlers now contribute one-fifth of our small revenue in the one item of rent alone, I am sure your Lordship will consider the time has arrived when they may expect the extension of the mail service to a central harbour on the east of the West Island, and I propose placing a sum on the estimates of next year for your Lordship's favourable consideration to carry out this essential service.

In a few years I expect the sheep-farmers of this island will realize their hopes, and at the same time the revenue will be considerably increased according to the Land Law your Lordship was so liberal as to recommend to the Sovereign; for, although their flocks have increased but slowly during the five years that the West Island has been inhabited and sheep-farms established, the value of the annual crop of wool has in most cases equalled the amount of the yearly expenditure incurred by the farmers.

Notwithstanding the drawbacks enumerated, the prospects of the West Falkland farmers are brightening; the climate and soil is adapted for the raising of sheep, the scab is no longer regarded as incurable, the shepherding is now better attended to, the staff being larger, the grasses are succulent, the climate of the West Island is more genial than the East, the winds are not so cold, and the camp is firmer, rivers and mountains in the West take the place of streams and hills in the East,—altogether the West is the finer island of the two. Half-way between Port Howard and Shallow Bay with pleasure I observed a large flock of partridges, the first ever seen in the islands; they must have been blown over from the coast of Patagonia in a gale of wind. I trust they will also become settlers, another article of food being much required in a land where the sun is not powerful enough to ripen wheat or corn, rendering the land comparatively valueless except for pastoral purposes.

This Report is the result of very recent personal observation; during the month of February I rode over nearly all the West Island, visiting the different stations, and I was glad to perceive that my expectations were realized with regard to the wild cattle; now that the Government has so liberally bestowed them upon lessees it has been their object to tame and preserve them, and breeding herds abound in every direction easy to rodeo: it is unlikely, however, that the wild cattle will be exterminated; the strongest, the most independent, who will not "turn" to a horse, have taken to the mountains where a mounted gaucho cannot follow them, the deepest and most treacherous bogs being invariably on the tops of the mountains whilst the valleys are comparatively easy to cross.

It is an interesting sight to witness a rodeo (a Spanish word meaning "inclosing cattle for the purpose of marking or counting

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them"); early on a fine day the proprietor gives the word to his gauchos to assemble all his cattle on a well-known central spot, the spectators assemble on this parade-ground, and soon perceive the herds approaching from all points of the compass followed by the mounted gauchos. Amongst the tame herds are a few wild bulls who have descended from the mountain fastnesses to enjoy the society of the tame cattle and for a time cheerfully accompany the herds, but soon they show signs of impatience and attempt to break through the cordon of horsemen. On arriving at the rodeo-ground the cattle show no signs of impatience for the space of one hour, during which time the gauchos lasso the wild bulls in the midst of the tame herd for the sake of their hides, the tame animals regarding the process with quiet indifference; sometimes an exciting chase takes place, and it is interesting to watch the dexterity with which the gaucho collects his lasso at a gallop after having failed in his cast.

Captain Strode, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's ship 'Pylades,' assured me that in all his travels he had never witnessed a more interesting sight than the rodeo which Mr. Edward Packe was good enough to order for the officers of the 'Pylades' to witness.

On the cordon of horsemen being withdrawn the cattle return to their feeding-grounds in order; without these weekly rodeos or parades the cattle would soon revert to a wild state.

10. *Government House.*

An inventory of contents (not being private property) of the Government House is attached to the Blue Book, together with the Vaccination Returns agreeable to the Colonial Regulations.

I have, &c.,

The Earl of Kimberley, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. D'ARCY, Governor.

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